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SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

HELD:

Thursday, November 29, 2012

LOCATION:

Council Chambers
Scranton City Hall
340 North Washington Avenue
Scranton, Pennsylvania

CATHENE S. NARDOZZI, RPR - OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

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CITY OF SCRANTON COUNCIL:

JANET EVANS, PRESIDENT

FRANK JOYCE, VICE-PRESIDENT

ROBERT MCGOFF

PAT ROGAN

JOHN LOSCOMBE

NANCY KRAKE, CITY CLERK

JAMIE MARCIANO, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

BOYD HUGHES, SOLICITOR

1 (Pledge of Allegiance recited and moment of reflection
2 observed.)

3 MS. EVANS: Roll call, please.

4 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McGoff. Mr.
5 Rogan.

6 MR. ROGAN: Here.

7 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Loscombe.

8 MR. LOSCOMBE: Here.

9 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Joyce.

10 MR. JOYCE: Here.

11 MS. MARCIANO: Mrs. Evans.

12 MS. EVANS: Here. Dispense with the
13 reading of the minutes, please.

14 MS. MARCIANO: 3-A. AGENDA FOR THE
15 ZONING HEARING BOARD MEETING HELD ON
16 NOVEMBER 21, 2012.

17 MS. EVANS: Are there any comments?
18 If not, received and filed.

19 MS. MARCIANO: 3-B. TAX ASSESSOR'S
20 REPORT, RESULTS FROM APPEAL HEARINGS HELD ON
21 OCTOBER 10, 2012.

22 MS. EVANS: Are there any comments?
23 If not, received and filed.

24 MS. MARCIANO: 3-C. TAX ASSESSOR'S
25 REPORTS FOR HEARINGS HELD ON OCTOBER 11, 17

1 AND 18, 2012.

2 MS. EVANS: Are there any comments?
3 If not, received and filed.

4 MS. MARCIANO: 3-D. TAX ASSESSOR'S
5 REPORT FOR HEARINGS TO BE HELD ON DECEMBER
6 5, 2012.

7 MS. EVANS: Are there any comments?
8 If not, received and filed.

9 MS. MARCIANO: 3-E. LACKAWANNA
10 COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION SUBDIVISION AND
11 LAND DEVELOPMENT EVALUATIONS RECEIVED ON
12 OCTOBER 10, 17, AND 21, 2012.

13 MS. EVANS: Are there any comments?
14 If not, received and filed.

15 MS. MARCIANO: 3-F. MINUTES OF THE
16 SCRANTON POLICE PENSION COMMISSION MEETING
17 HELD OCTOBER 24, 2012.

18 MS. EVANS: Are there any comments?
19 If not, received and filed.

20 MS. MARCIANO: 3-G. MINUTES OF THE
21 SCRANTON FIREMEN'S PENSION COMMISSION
22 MEETINGS HELD ON SEPTEMBER 26, 2012 AND
23 OCTOBER 24, 2012.

24 MS. EVANS: Are there any comments?
25 If not, received and filed.

1 MS. MARCIANO: 3-H. MINUTES OF THE
2 COMPOSITE PENSION BOARD MEETING HELD ON
3 OCTOBER 24, 2012.

4 MS. EVANS: Are there any comments?
5 If not, received and filed.

6 MS. MARCIANO: 3-I. AGENDA FOR THE
7 CITY PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING HELD
8 ON NOVEMBER 28, 2012.

9 MS. EVANS: Are there any comments?
10 If not, received and filed. I don't believe
11 we will have any clerk's notes this evening
12 because our city clerk, Mrs. Krake, is
13 suffering from laryngitis. Do any council
14 members have announcements at this time?

15 MR. ROGAN: Yes, I have two. I'd
16 just like to announce a benefit for
17 Westsider Mike Coyne on Sunday, December 9,
18 2002, at Kilcoyne's Bar, 129 South Main
19 Avenue, West Side from 4 to 8 p.m. There
20 will be basket raffles, a 50/50, food, beer
21 and soda and a \$10 donation can be made at
22 the door.

23 Secondly, I would just like to
24 congratulate West Sider Matt McGloin for an
25 amazing career at Penn State. We have all

1 seen him go from quarterback at the local
2 high school to being the quarterback for
3 Penn State. He is eligible for many awards
4 this year and I would also ask, if my
5 colleagues agree, that when Mr. McGloin is
6 back in the city that we have him in for a
7 proclamation and to have a Matt McGloin day
8 in the City of Scranton much as we have done
9 for past athletes from the city.

10 MS. EVANS: Yes.

11 MR. ROGAN: And I will get in touch
12 with his family and a get some stats and
13 things of that nature and pass it along to
14 the city. Thank you.

15 MS. EVANS: Is there anyone else?
16 Pennsylvania's low income home energy
17 assistance program or LIHEAP is accepting
18 applications for the programs helpful cash
19 grants and crisis grants for the 2012-2013
20 heating season. Cash grants are sent
21 directly to the applicant's utility company
22 and crisis grants assist people who are in
23 danger of immediately being without heat.

24 For more information and the income
25 guidelines, call the LIHEAP hotline at

1 1-866-857-7095 or contact State Senator John
2 Blake's Office at 207-2881.

3 Since the proposed budget was not
4 submitted to city council's office until
5 November 15 it did not meet the deadline to
6 be included on the agenda of November 15.
7 The Thanksgiving holiday fell during the
8 following week and as a result the proposed
9 budget could not be presented until tonight.
10 Because city council wished to present the
11 budget to the public prior to scheduling a
12 public hearing and because December 1 falls
13 on a Saturday council will conduct a public
14 hearing on the proposed 2013 operating
15 budget of the City of Scranton on Monday,
16 December 3, the first business day of
17 December. The hearing date and time, which
18 I believe will be 5:00, will be advertised
19 in the newspaper this weekend.

20 The Scranton Civic Ballet Company
21 under the artistic direction of Miss Helen
22 Goust will present it's 26th annual
23 production of the holiday classic the
24 Nutcracker on Friday, December 7, at 7:30
25 p.m., and Sunday December 9th at 2:00 p.m.

1 at the Scranton Cultural Center. Admission
2 is free. In order to obtain free reserved
3 seating tickets stop by the Cultural Center
4 box office at 407 North Washington Avenue in
5 Scranton or call the box office at
6 570-346-7369. What a perfect way to usher
7 in the holiday season in the comfort and
8 splendor of the Cultural Center.

9 The Scranton/Lackawanna County
10 Taxpayers' Association has rescheduled its
11 meeting to this Tuesday, December 4th at
12 6:00 p.m. in Scranton City Council chambers.
13 Newly elected state representative Kevin
14 Haggerty will be their guest.

15 Finally, this Saturday, December 1,
16 Santa Clause will arrive by special train at
17 six communities in the Lackawanna valley.
18 Families are encouraged to assemble at their
19 communities' train stations to welcome santa
20 as the train pulls into town. At each stop
21 Santa will great all of the children and
22 photo opportunities will be available.
23 Afterward, families can enjoy refreshments,
24 special activities and live entertainment
25 and all activities are free. New this year

1 the Scranton High School marching band will
2 perform at the Scranton stop. The santa
3 train will arrive at the state office
4 building parking lot on Lackawanna Avenue in
5 Scranton at 2:45 p.m., and that's it.

6 (Whereupon during Mrs. Evans'
7 announcements, Mr. McGoff took the dais and
8 joined the meeting.)

9 MS. MARCIANO: FOURTH ORDER.
10 CITIZENS' PARTICIPATION.

11 MS. EVANS: Our first speaker
12 tonight is Les Spindler.

13 MR. SPINDLER: Good evening,
14 Council. Les Spindler, city resident,
15 homeowner and taxpayer.

16 MS. EVANS: Good evening.

17 MR. SPINDLER: I want to talk about
18 the budget. First thing when I heard about
19 this budget I couldn't believe is 106
20 million, 109 million, whatever it is, \$24
21 million more than this year's budget. I
22 can't believe it's that's high. I don't
23 think our county budget is much more than
24 \$100 million and I can't believe our city is
25 that high.

1 will not support anybody that passes this
2 budget with those raises in it, and I know a
3 lot of taxpayers that have spoken to me felt
4 the same way.

5 I don't know how anybody could even
6 consider something like this. It's just an
7 outrage. I mean, this city is in such
8 financial trouble, I can't believe anybody
9 would even consider this. I expect it from
10 the mayor, but I'm really surprised you
11 support this, Mrs. Evans. I mean, I have to
12 work two jobs to make ends meet. None of
13 these people that are getting these raises
14 they don't have to work two jobs to make
15 ends meet and I just think that is
16 outrageous and it cannot be passed.

17 Moving on, this article in
18 yesterday's Doherty newsletter about the
19 streetlight trouble on the McDade
20 Expressway. I brought that up before and it
21 says here Mark Dougher from the DPW said
22 it's been since November 21. That's been
23 for a lot longer than that. I think it was
24 the November 8 meeting I was here I brought
25 it up about the lights from Seventh Avenue

1 all the way up to Main Avenue being out, so
2 it's been a lot longer than November 21 and
3 PennDOT is saying it's the city's fault, the
4 city is saying it's PennDOT's fault, so I
5 just hope they figure whose fault it is and
6 get that work done because it's not safe
7 there. There is a lot of dark areas on that
8 highway.

9 The only thing else I have to say is
10 Councilman Rogan still stole some of my
11 thunder. I, again, would like to
12 congratulate the Penn State football team, a
13 really, really good season after what
14 happened to them and I'm sure Saturday
15 Joe-Pa was smiling down on them, and I agree
16 with Pat, Matt McGloin had a record setting
17 season, represented this city well, and I
18 agree with the proclamation, and as he said,
19 he is up for awards and one that I have
20 voted for already, the people can vote for
21 it, it's called the Burlsworth Trophy, it's
22 for the best walk in. If the people want to
23 vote they can go to
24 www.burlsworthtrophy.com.

25 That's B-U-R-L-S-W-O-R-T-H-

1 T-R-O-P-H-Y. Burlsworthtrophy.com. And as
2 of this afternoon when I checked, Matt had
3 60 percent of the vote and that only goes
4 for 5 percent, the decision of the committee
5 is going to decide, but if they see the
6 people are giving him most of the vote maybe
7 he will get it. I think he should get it.
8 He deserves it. If he didn't play this year
9 they might not have won a game. He had that
10 good of a season and I'd love to see him
11 playing on Sunday somewhere.

12 Again, that's all I have to say. As
13 you said before, you cannot pass this budget
14 with those raises in it. Thank you for your
15 time.

16 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Just a few
17 economic things I want to clarify before I
18 call up the next speaker. With regard to
19 increase in the new operating budget, I know
20 that our Finance Chair, Mr. Joyce, explained
21 the causes of those increases during our
22 last council meeting and I believe he will
23 do so again tonight during the presentation
24 of the budget to the public.

25 MR. JOYCE: I will.

1 MS. EVANS: And in addition, the 12
2 percent tax increase is purely to fund the
3 2012 unfunded debt. It does not include
4 raises or any other portion basically of the
5 budget. It is simply designated for the
6 unfunded debt of 2012. So, for example, if
7 you were to eliminate the entire DPW, the
8 entire police department, you would still
9 have a 12 percent tax increase because that
10 funds the unfunded debt of this year.

11 In addition to that, council is
12 amenable to changes to the budget. That's
13 why we are still in the budget process and
14 we are beginning the formal discussions on
15 it this evening in terms of the proposed
16 budget. Amendments cannot be made during
17 Fifth Order introduction, but amendments can
18 be made during Sixth Order or Seventh Order
19 and that means during the next two council
20 meetings that are held, and I have no doubt
21 that there will be amendments.

22 MR. JOYCE: Yes, I plan on making
23 amendments to some of the raises that were
24 dolled out, and I think that only people
25 that were going above and beyond their duty

1 in keeping the city out of bankruptcy should
2 be awarded something.

3 Ms. Evans: Our next speaker is Andy
4 Sbaraglia.

5 MR. SBARAGLIA: Andy Sbaraglia,
6 citizen of Scranton. Fellow Scrantonians --

7 MS. EVANS: Good evening.

8 MR. SBARAGLIA: -- that first 12
9 percent tax hike was for the first unfunded
10 debt. Now we went back to the courts and
11 got a second unfunded debt, and then we put
12 out a bond of 20 -- put out four bonds of 20
13 million. Why? So we can cut down some of
14 the costs of the bonds because the bonds
15 that were taken is paying off the debt from
16 back there I think it was '03 A, B, C and D,
17 so if we had to pay that debt, that 12
18 percent would not stand.

19 We've played musical chairs before
20 with finances, it's very easy to do it, but
21 the bottom line is you put a burden on the
22 taxpayer whether you want to or not, it's
23 going to be close to 80 million because when
24 you borrow 40 million you usually double it
25 and that's what the cost will be in the end.

1 Now you plan to do it next year, you plan to
2 borrow another 20 million to pay off the
3 police and the firemen which would put us
4 doubling that would be about 40 million, so
5 what are you doing is putting a debt on the
6 city of 120 million in addition to what you
7 have in the end. That's what it's going to
8 work out to be.

9 Now, how you plan to pay for that is
10 beyond me. Thank God that down there in
11 Harrisburg tomorrow we'll find out what they
12 are going to do, that judge's ruling has
13 expired tomorrow and we will see what goes
14 on there for bankruptcy. I don't like the
15 bankruptcy, but I don't know if it was \$120
16 million additional debt placed on the people
17 of the city. I'm not complaining about the
18 raises, I think you should have gave the
19 raise to the mayor a long time ago and got a
20 man in there that can run the city and you
21 pay for what you get and that's we got, a
22 \$50,000 mayor who we got a \$70,000 sanitary
23 worker. Does that make sense? No.

24 MS. EVANS: No, but there isn't a
25 raise included for the mayor.

1 MR. SBARAGLIA: It's too late
2 because there will be a new mayor coming in
3 and the new mayor will come in after that,
4 but we are going to suffer for what we got.
5 I have been sitting there listening to you
6 hammer, hammer, hammer a long time. Janet,
7 I don't blame you, I went to lot of the
8 meetings, even at night when you brought up
9 proposed budgets, and it was scoffed at, is
10 what the best word I could use. It's
11 scoffed at. People have been coming here a
12 long time to tell you this is going to
13 happen, your figures don't come up. There
14 is no way. I don't know how the Sewer
15 Authority got away with the bonds being
16 guaranteed on them, we did guarantee a bunch
17 of bonds for the Sewer Authority a long time
18 ago with the good faith. Now, I don't know
19 how they paid them off or what they did
20 there, but they don't come before us anymore
21 so I assume something was done.

22 And the Parking Authority, instead
23 of one lawyer they got two down there, they
24 got an administrator that was a
25 commissioner. You got a board that's still

1 sitting there, and now you are talking about
2 doing something with the parking meters that
3 was brought up that they wanted you to do it
4 in the beginning.

5 It wasn't a good idea to give the
6 parking meters to the Parking Authority.
7 Why it couldn't be good to do it now for the
8 people running the parking garages. We're
9 stuck. All that finagling we did didn't
10 really do much. The only thing we were
11 hoping for was selling maybe a garage or two
12 or getting in somebody that could run it,
13 but I don't think there is anybody that can
14 run it except God, and I don't think he is
15 going to come back and run it, because there
16 is no way. Your figures don't tally and
17 they will never tally. That's the sad thing
18 about it.

19 I told you a long time ago you
20 should have called for that board to resign
21 and better yet you should ask them to
22 account for what they did, show them figures
23 that they said they had that said we should
24 build of hundreds of garages around, well, I
25 shouldn't say that, excess garages in town

1 and I still don't know, is the Hilton
2 getting their free spaces in the garage?

3 MS. EVANS: I believe they do.

4 MR. SBARAGLIA: I believe it, too,
5 because they got a contract, so all of these
6 things were done and I don't even want to
7 get -- I got some old contracts where even
8 Boscov's had some lots assigned for over the
9 movie theatre because technically Boscov's
10 owns the movie theatre, they built over the
11 movie theatre and so many spaces are allowed
12 at Boscovs, but I don't think they ever used
13 it. Thank you.

14 MS. EVANS: Attorney Anthony Moses.

15 MR. MOSES: Good evening, Council,
16 and City of Scranton residents. My name is
17 Anthony Moses. I'm an attorney. I
18 represent Bob Bolus and I represent Bolus
19 Truck Parts. I just wanted to take a few
20 minutes of your time briefly to address some
21 issues with the Moosic Street Bridge.

22 I guess first and foremost my client
23 is concerned with the bridge. He is
24 concerned, he doesn't want it to be an
25 inconvenience to any of the citizens of

1 Scranton. I am primarily located in Luzerne
2 County and I know that the Hotel Sterling
3 down there for about 15 months it can make
4 your blood boil if you need to be somewhere
5 in ten minutes and you got to go all the way
6 around the city because of that.

7 My client is concerned, he doesn't
8 want this to be an enormous inconvenience
9 for the City of Scranton. He has, and if he
10 may pass it out, he at his own expense paid
11 for a private structural engineer to assess
12 the bridge. Just some of the stuff I wanted
13 to highlight with respect to the bridge are
14 that it's age, it's about 45, and the
15 engineer feels that the life of the bridge
16 anyway was about 50. There was some
17 preexisting damage. However, he does feel
18 that something can be done to make it --
19 until it is replaced something can be done
20 to make it so people can travel over it and
21 I know my client just wanted to come to
22 council and see if the city could work with
23 PennDOT and not so much exert pressure, just
24 expedite things and make the bridge useful
25 for the citizens so that he doesn't want a

1 situation where people are angered over it
2 or anything like that because it is
3 inconvenience and it poses an inconvenience.

4 And also he just wants to stress
5 that he has taken full, full responsibility
6 for what happened. It was a driver of his
7 that hit the bridge, there was an excavator
8 on top of a truck and he did hit the bridge
9 and also he is a little bit concerned there
10 is obviously some money being spent to store
11 the excavator for an investigation, which we
12 are a little bit confused about because he
13 has taken full responsibility, and I know
14 that was a machine that was involved, that's
15 the machine that hit the bridge. It is what
16 it is and at this point he is just looking
17 forward to having his insurance company take
18 a look at the machine and take a look at the
19 bridge. I guess PennDOT will pay for any
20 damage and then be reimbursed by the
21 insurance company is how we understand it
22 works, but, again, we just come in here
23 today to let counsel as well the citizens of
24 Scranton know that his company has taken
25 full responsibility.

1 He has paid out-of-pocket himself
2 for a private engineering firm to provide an
3 assessment and they feel it's something that
4 doesn't need to be a long, drawn out year or
5 two-year long inconvenience. Again, I can
6 tell you from being in Wilkes-Barre with the
7 Hotel Sterling it can -- you know, it can
8 make your blood boil when something is a
9 detour and an inconvenience for an extended
10 period of time and that's not what he would
11 like to do. And again, he does have a
12 professional expert that does feel that this
13 can be remedied if it's acted on
14 expeditiously and that's really his purpose
15 here today and that was really my purpose
16 here today.

17 MS. EVANS: We can certainly make
18 sure that PennDOT as well as the city
19 engineer receives this report and, you know,
20 we will follow-up on that and ask for their
21 response to it.

22 MR. MOSES: Thank you.

23 MS. EVANS: And it's certainly our
24 intention that this process will be
25 expedited, if at all possible.

1 MR. MOSES: Yeah, that was just our
2 point. It's a heavily used bridge and, you
3 know, we all now how people need to get to
4 work and people need to do things and, you
5 know, he has taken full responsibility and
6 he does not want this to be a hindrance or
7 an annoyance to anybody, and I thank you for
8 your time and the citizens for listening and
9 for their time.

10 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

11 MR. LOSCOMBE: Thank you.

12 MR. HUGHES: If I could, Attorney
13 Moses, has this been submitted to PennDOT?

14 MR. MOSES: I'm sorry?

15 MR. HUGHES: Has your report been
16 submitted to PennDOT?

17 MR. BOLUS: The engineer did speak
18 to PennDOT, I don't know if he sent it over,
19 we will make sure they receive a copy of it.

20 MR. HUGHES: Okay, because this is
21 solely their decision. This is a state
22 highway, the city has no control over that,
23 it's going to a PennDOT issue but, you know,
24 I think as Mrs. Evans said that, you know,
25 we will have the city engineer look at this

1 and also, you know, see what we can do with
2 PennDOT to see if they can get these bridges
3 open.

4 MR. MOSES: Yeah, and I believe
5 somewhere in the report that the private
6 engineer does say it's, you know, solely on
7 the jurisdiction of the PennDOT but, you
8 know, what he actually says in the report he
9 did speak to them, but we just, you know, we
10 just wanted to sort of let that city know
11 that there is full responsibility being
12 taken and my client would like to cause as
13 little, if any, inconvenience as possible
14 for as short amount of time as possible and
15 thank you again for the time.

16 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

17 MR. BOLUS: Good evening, Council.
18 Bob Bolus. Sometimes we are glad to come
19 here and sometimes, you know, we are not
20 only because of circumstances. However,
21 everybody that knows me I have always taken
22 responsibility for whatever goes on and,
23 unfortunately, owning the company no matter
24 where you sit or what you do you're damned
25 if you do and damned with you don't.

1 I appreciate Attorney Moses taking
2 his time to come up here tonight and it's
3 important that we all move collectively to
4 find the best resolve here. We are upset
5 about certain things that did transpire
6 regarding this, and Attorney Moses touched a
7 little bit on it as the impounding of the
8 machine, we are paying a rental fee for it.
9 It's now been impounded almost a month.
10 It's been impounded by the City of Scranton
11 and I guess the District Attorney's Office.
12 They went in with a search warrant in the
13 middle of the night and took this out at an
14 exorbitant cost of money to the city and to
15 the taxpayers, and I'm not here to try a
16 case or try anything here, but as a taxpayer
17 in the City of Scranton that's facing tax
18 increases not only in the city but in the
19 county, and as a resident here money being
20 squandered and wasted when there was
21 absolutely no need for it, and it's still
22 continuing to go on and at some point
23 somebody is going to be responsible for the
24 rental fees of between \$850 and \$1,000 a day
25 for this machine while it's been sitting

1 here and the owner that owns it, it's not
2 our machine, it was a rented one, is being
3 denied the private use of that machine as
4 well, plus the hauling out and they have
5 permission to leave it right where it was
6 from us to do whatever they needed to do.
7 It's not something you can drive down the
8 highway or go anywhere.

9 Our company has taken full
10 responsibility. Our insurance company was
11 involved. Everybody has been involved with
12 this. There is no hidden out in the woods
13 hidden anywhere. There is no games here.
14 It's unfortunate, but accidents do happen.
15 That's why we carry insurance. No matter
16 what. They are unpredictable. I have been
17 in the towing recovery for over 48 years and
18 believe me, I have taken many, many trucks
19 out from under bridges, including here in
20 the City of Scranton and the bridges are
21 still standing today.

22 So, you know, we just want to move
23 forward with it and try and help the people
24 out. It's an inconvenience for everyone,
25 but I believe there is a resolve and that's

1 why I did what I did, at least get an
2 outside opinion, you know, PennDOT could
3 listen, PennDOT could say, no, it's their
4 bridge, it's the way they do business and,
5 unfortunately, we can't say anything.

6 That's why we came before council tonight to
7 ask council's assistance in trying to get
8 this a resolve as expeditiously as possible.

9 And putting all of that to the side
10 getting on to where we are in the city, as
11 far as raises go, I don't think Paul Kelly
12 is worth the dime more than he has been
13 paid. He has cost the city money. As you
14 are well aware, we have now filed for
15 litigation regarding the property on East
16 Mountain. I have asked and asked and asked,
17 we are going to take him to Court now and
18 get a legal decision, it's now going to cost
19 all of us a lot of money because Paul Kelly
20 didn't do his job. He doesn't respond to
21 council, he didn't produce deeds, didn't
22 show any bill of sale, he didn't show any
23 transfer of the property other than what I
24 showed council and gave council an in-depth
25 title search regarding the property, and

1 there was \$50,000 on the table.

2 Is he entitled to the money? No, he
3 cost the city money and he is going to
4 continue to cost them more. He is going to
5 cost money because of the condemnation on my
6 home that he approved and it wasn't
7 condemned legally, so there is a lot of
8 issues going to go on thanks to Paul Kelly
9 and his personal vendetta with me or
10 whatever it is.

11 Boyd Hughes, on the other the hand,
12 is entitled to a raise because Boyd has done
13 the job. He has gone out and saved the city
14 money and he has worked his butt off to do
15 it, and I know Boyd for 40 years and we have
16 been adversarial in the past, but I commend
17 him for what he has done on behalf of this
18 council because his experience you don't
19 find anywhere laying around. So, yes, there
20 is a difference and who is entitled to it
21 and who isn't.

22 The nonprofits, and I brought this
23 up many times, let's not beg them for money.
24 We have the wherewithal to put a public
25 service fee on everybody in the City of

1 Scranton. 1 percent, 2 percent, whatever,
2 and that means everybody pays. KOZs,
3 nonprofits, they cannot argue a fee. They
4 can argue a tax. No more do we have a
5 garbage fee, and that was taxation without
6 representation because we are already paying
7 money to the city for our taxes to pick up
8 our garbage. So stop begging, let's do what
9 we need to do and maybe we can reduce this
10 budgets. It's the highest budget I think in
11 the history of Scranton. It's higher than a
12 county that has a heck of lot more people
13 and the people are getting hit three times,
14 the city, the county and the school. They
15 can't take anymore. It's time now we undo
16 what councils and administration has done
17 over the past eight, 12 years, and I would
18 ask you to do that and I appreciate your
19 time and --

20 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

21 MR. BOLUS: -- I'm available, if
22 anybody -- or Attorney Moses, if the
23 solicitor or anybody needs to get ahold of
24 him he is available to try and resolve this
25 issue. Thank you. And, oh, one more thing,

1 my dinner is going to go on at Christmas.
2 We did get some help from people that are
3 going to assist us in cooking the turkeys so
4 we will have it.

5 MS. EVANS: Wonderful.

6 MR. BOLUS: Thank you.

7 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Doug Miller.

8 MR. MILLER: Good evening, Council,
9 Doug Miller, Scranton.

10 MS. EVANS: Good evening.

11 MR. MILLER: Obviously the issue
12 tonight is dealing with the budget and that
13 will be the case for the next few weeks now.
14 You know, I did take issue with the recent
15 Scranton Times' article regarding Councilman
16 Rogan and the statements that he made
17 regarding the 2013 operating budget. You
18 know, we are yet again going back to
19 referring to things as the Doherty/Evans
20 budget, the Doherty/Evans recovery plan and,
21 you know, I just thought that we put that to
22 sleep back in August when we revised the
23 recovery plan that we wanted to refer to as
24 a Doherty/Evans recovery plan and now yet
25 again we are going back to the Doherty/Evans

1 classification.

2 Let's make it quite clear, this is
3 the city's 2013 operating budget. This
4 isn't the Chris Doherty budget, this isn't
5 the Janet Evan budget, it's the city's
6 budget and that's the misconception we had,
7 and to make that statement, again, I think
8 is doing disjustice to the residentes of
9 this city especially coming from an elected
10 official. You know, we have been down this
11 path before, you know, we want to, you know,
12 play the sympathy card, we want to get into
13 a pity party and we are not included in on
14 discussions. The fact of the matter is you
15 all have just as much say as anybody else as
16 an elected official and having input on the
17 budget. The budget was never a done deal.
18 Mr. Rogan made have stated that he didn't
19 make any suggestions because it was a done
20 deal. It's not a done deal. The budget
21 hasn't even been final -- hasn't even
22 reached final passage yet. In fact, we
23 haven't even conducted a public hearing yet,
24 so it's certainly nonsensical to even make
25 that statement publically. It's yet again

1 more grandstanding by an elected official
2 who has consistently time and time again
3 refused to put the necessary work involved
4 to get the job done. This isn't about
5 personalities, it's about protecting the
6 residents of this city. Time and time again
7 we go down the same path and we deal with
8 the same nonsense that we want to grandstand
9 to the TV camera.

10 It sounds all well and good on TV,
11 but the reality is you were elected to do a
12 job. They are difficult decisions to make,
13 they are not always popular --

14 MR. ROGAN: Mr. Miller --

15 MR. MILLER: But you have an
16 obligation to protect the residents of this
17 city and that's not happening right now.
18 You know, as I said, I can't tell you how
19 frustrating it gets over time. I commend
20 council for all of the work you do. I know
21 the time and efforts you put into it with
22 Councilman Joyce with the projection that he
23 is going to make tonight. The effort that
24 he puts into it. This a group effort. We
25 all work together and the reason we do that

1 is because council during the summer took
2 the bull by the horn and realized that we
3 needed the administration to put their
4 politics aside and come together and sit
5 down and negotiate a revised recovery plan
6 and that happened because council took the
7 initiative and you realized that to move the
8 city forward and to better the city and the
9 taxpayers we needed to come together and
10 that happened.

11 But now we want to go back and we
12 want to play political games and spew the
13 political rhetoric and move us back. We
14 need to move forward. You know, the raises,
15 as some speakers objected to earlier
16 tonight, I absolutely agree. Does Paul
17 Kelly deserve a raise? Absolutely not. I
18 think the person that needs to be in the
19 spotlight is Attorney Hughes who
20 single-handedly has saved the city from going
21 into bankruptcy. Let's take a look at all
22 he has done, working on the budge, took on
23 the Parking Authority, was very strong with
24 the recovery plan process. These are things
25 that he did and he is an asset to the city

1 and he should be commended for that. You
2 know, we can go on about, you know, the tax
3 increases, that was clarified earlier. The
4 12 percent tax increase is to cover the
5 unfunded debt, not the raises, and I know
6 Councilman Joyce will go into full detail on
7 all of that later on and clarify any
8 questions that the public may have.

9 But when we want to sit here and he
10 we want to be objective and not have a plan
11 ourselves it doesn't look good. Yeah, it's
12 nice to say "no" and it looks good on TV to
13 the public viewing it at home, but they want
14 answers, they want solutions. They don't
15 want to hear "no". They don't want to hear
16 it is a done deal and I wasn't included.
17 Everyone has an opportunity to be involved.
18 This budget is not a done deal.

19 Mr. Rogan, I know you had some
20 statements to make, would you like to make
21 them?

22 MR. ROGAN: Yeah, I wanted to let
23 you finish first. You know, you said I'm
24 not going to finish it, I said when the
25 reporter called me, "I'll have the amendment

1 next week to remove the raises and we'll see
2 where the votes stand."

3 MR. MILER: Your statement as far as
4 it being a done deal I don't know what you
5 mean.

6 MR. ROGAN: Meaning this document
7 was already sent out to the printers.
8 That's what I meant.

9 MR. MILLER: Well, I think the
10 public perception is when you say a "done
11 deal" they believe it to be passed.

12 MR. ROGAN: No, obviously there
13 hasn't about a vote. What I meant was the
14 document that the mayor, and was stated the
15 mayor does always propose the budget which
16 is created by him and whoever or just him
17 alone, but this document was already sent
18 out the printer.

19 MR. MILLER: Did you at any time
20 during the budget process reach out to your
21 fellow colleagues and offer any amendments
22 or objections that you did have to the
23 budget?

24 MR. ROGAN: I never received a draft
25 copy until I received this one and that's

1 what I meant.

2 MR. MILLER: But having the recovery
3 plan as a blueprint knowing full well that
4 for basically for the next three years
5 that's the blueprint for our budget, having
6 that in front of you that should have given
7 you an opportunity to come up with some
8 revisions and amendments that you could have
9 passed along to your colleagues. Did you do
10 that?

11 MR. ROGAN: That's what I'm in the
12 process of doing.

13 MR. MILLER: But I'm saying
14 throughout the whole weeks and months of
15 this whole process with Councilman Joyce and
16 Councilman Evans and Council Loscombe at any
17 time did you have any dialogues to give any
18 input on the budget.

19 MR. ROGAN: Like you said, it's not
20 a done deal. My amendments will be ready
21 next week.

22 MR. MILLER: Like I said, I'm just
23 certainly just a little disappointed in the
24 statements that were made in the newspaper.
25 I just feel that we all need to work

1 together. This is the city's budget, it's
2 not the mayor's budget, it's not
3 Councilwoman Evans' budget and I think we
4 need to being careful on how we address
5 issues in the future and not make this
6 political.

7 There is some serious things going
8 on here and we want to do everything
9 possible to avoid bankruptcy. We don't want
10 to see that because when that happens, as we
11 all know, we have no say over that. Taxes
12 will be raised in astronomical amounts and
13 the city will be completely dead and we
14 don't want to see that day happen, so we
15 need to continue making the touch decisions,
16 making the choices, working together,
17 putting politics aside and I'm confident
18 that's going to happen and I appreciate your
19 time. Thank you.

20 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Lee Morgan.

21 MR. MORGAN: Good evening, Council.

22 MS. EVANS: Good evening.

23 MR. MORGAN: At the last meeting
24 there were some comments made by yourself,
25 Council President Evans, about /SOFPLT some

1 information I wanted and I just don't think
2 that you presented what I asked for, but
3 that's fine.

4 The first thing I have here tonight
5 is going away from the city budget, I'll
6 speak on that on the third. There's is a
7 Lackawanna County -- in Lackawanna County
8 the guardian ad litem program review has
9 taken place. Here is the document. 122
10 pages. It comes from the Administrative
11 Office of the Pennsylvania Courts Judicial
12 Programs Department. Zigmond Pines was the
13 person who I guess authorized it. He is the
14 Court Administrator.

15 I'm really beginning to review this.
16 I have spoken to Judge Corbett who I believe
17 has seated the board. I have spoken to
18 Nancy Barrasse. I don't know if she is a
19 Miss or Mrs., I just know that that is her
20 name, she is a chairwoman. No disrespect to
21 her, I have spoken to her. I'm really
22 concerned, I have also opened a line of
23 communication between myself and this
24 Zigmond Pines, he is in Philadelphia.

25 As everyone here probably knows, the

1 Feds, the FBI and everyone came in and they
2 investigated the guardian ad litem and the
3 troubling thing I find about what's occurred
4 here is that I don't think anybody in
5 Lackawanna County knows this review is
6 taking place other than myself, and I really
7 have to say, I'm losing my voice, but I
8 really have to say that I have some very
9 serious concerns for the people that have
10 been appointed to this board and I have made
11 those thoughts clear to Judge Corbett.

12 I really think that when Judge
13 Harhut put this together in the late 1980's
14 he came up with a plan because divorce
15 courts were a war zone and I just think that
16 with the makeup of this board I think we are
17 losing a lot. I have to question a couple
18 of things here. I think that the most
19 important thing about the guardian ad litem
20 program is that I think needs to be expanded
21 and that no attorney who is a guardian
22 should practice family law in the family law
23 system in the courts and in Lackawanna
24 County. And I think that that's one very
25 important thing that Judge Harhut did.

1 But in this review I think there is
2 a special interest group that shouldn't be
3 part of this group and that's the Women's
4 Resource Center, because they are special
5 interest group and, look it, you know, I
6 could see representing somebody in domestic
7 violence, but that's not the purpose of this
8 review.

9 Now, previous to this I did a
10 Right-to-Know to the District Attorney's
11 Office, and asked him if the Women's -- and
12 I also did it to the county commissioners to
13 ask if the Women's Resource Center was
14 funding the District Attorney's Office in
15 any way and whether they had a prosecutor
16 attorney that works for the Women's Resource
17 Center and it's my understanding they do.
18 The District Attorney refused to answer that
19 question, and I just think that this program
20 needs to be shielded from some of the people
21 on the board and I just think that the
22 Women's Resource Center should remove itself
23 from this board.

24 I think it's fine in instances to
25 have a representative in the courtroom to

1 represent you, but I think that when this
2 review goes through I think it's not quite
3 proper for them to be part of this review.

4 Now, when you read and study their
5 funding streams through the state and
6 federal government they are a quasi-private
7 organization. It's very troubling and if we
8 are going to protect children and the rights
9 of their -- to being protected by a guardian
10 I just don't think they belong there and I
11 just hope that anyone who may share may
12 opinions, I have talked to a lot of people
13 and I have to say that the people most
14 troubled by this report that have seen it
15 and heard of it aren't men they were women
16 because they don't think the Women's
17 Resource Center belongs on had board of
18 review.

19 As everybody in my own opinion knows
20 women are usually involved in a lot more
21 issues than men. That's just the way I see
22 things. I just hope that if anybody has any
23 questions on this they'd feel free to call
24 me at 570-604-1212 and I appreciate your
25 time.

1 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Ron Ellman.

2 MR. ELLMAN: Hello, Council.

3 MS. EVANS: Good evening.

4 MR. ELLMAN: The last month or so I
5 probably talked to well over 50 homeowners,
6 you know, in the ventures around town and to
7 a tee every last one of them, it's
8 understandable with the tax raise, they are
9 not going to vote for council, the
10 commissioners, the school board, the
11 governor, people have had enough, and I
12 don't know if you need to go to Plan B it is
13 a mathematical impossibility for 37,000
14 taxable property to pay off this debt. I
15 don't care what PEL and all of them people
16 keep telling us to do, you can't. Go talk
17 to anybody that's knowledgeable in banking,
18 tax consultants, business people, anybody
19 you talk to would tell you, you just can't
20 keep falling back on the people of this city
21 with the tradition Doherty has established
22 in raising taxes and borrowing.

23 You going to get turned down sooner
24 or later and somebody is going to have to do
25 something. You got to go to the source of

1 the problem. You got to go to the Board of
2 Assessors and have something done about the
3 University and the rest of these phony
4 nonprofits that have just eaten -- they have
5 killed the city.

6 Brother McGoff, you support the
7 University and it's policies, you people
8 worked diligently on your budget last month
9 and what happened? \$30,000 immediately was
10 taken off by the University. Who is
11 supposed to make that up? The people aren't
12 getting nothing for their dollar. All they
13 do is brag about what they are doing for the
14 city.

15 Marathon weekend you know where the
16 mayor was? He was in New York City for a
17 coat and tie dinner at a fancy hotel.

18 MR. MCGOFF: The marathon weekend?

19 MR. ELLMAN: The marathon weekend?

20 MR. MCGOFF: He ran the marathon.
21 Steamtown?

22 MR. ELLMAN: Do you know whose
23 dinner it was?

24 MR. MCGOFF: He ran the Steamtown
25 marathon.

1 MR. ELLMAN: It was the University
2 had a dinner. Nothing in this city was fine
3 enough or good enough for him and they are
4 the ones that say they support us? This is
5 the man that you said to try to get extra
6 amounts of money from them. He sleeps with
7 the University. He is not going to ask them
8 for any money and they support him, and this
9 -- the fact is it's just an impossibility
10 for us to just go anymore. You people just
11 you have gotten out of tune with the people
12 of this city. Go out there any place in the
13 city and talk to them. Even the nice
14 section of Clarks Summit or somebody, there
15 is just not that much, people got other
16 things to do besides pay city taxes and
17 county taxes and every time we turn around
18 there is just abuse.

19 And five, six, seven years I have
20 been telling you Paul Mansour and he hasn't
21 done one thing with all of his money he has
22 gotten to fix up the Woolworth House.
23 Goodwill got 2 1/2 million somebody sitting
24 on it, the building hasn't been touched.
25 Like they said a couple of weeks ago, it

1 hasn't been touched. They have no
2 intentions of touching it until they are
3 forced to and then they'll probably give it
4 back to the city. It should have been sold
5 years ago. Every phony kind of developer in
6 this town gets all kinds of tax deductions
7 and KOZs.

8 I got two sewers at the end of my
9 property that have been stopped up since I
10 lived there. Water goes across the sidewalk
11 and puts all of this dirt on it every time
12 that a heavy rain comes, you know, I don't
13 have any curbs, but those people up there on
14 Keyser Avenue, two or three hundred thousand
15 dollar houses for ten years and they are not
16 paying taxes they got everything I don't.

17 That's what's wrong with the city
18 everybody's priorities are wrong. You are
19 not thinking of the people that are paying
20 the bill anymore, and I'm one of them that's
21 paying the bill but I've about had it. I
22 told you people once I can draw my equity
23 out of my house and leave it and come out
24 ahead. I mean, way ahead and I'm not going
25 to pay all of those taxes next year. They

1 can have my house, I'll take my equity and
2 go live in a high rise or something. I'm
3 just not going to pay it no more and I have
4 heard a lot of other, you got thousands of
5 empty houses all over the place.

6 MS. EVANS: Thank you, Mr. Ellman.

7 MR. ELLMAN: You need a Plan B or
8 something, you know, like I said, I don't
9 know what it is, but you got to do something
10 for the people that are paying for
11 everything and forget about all of these
12 ridiculous PEL and all of the advice they
13 have given us because it's been adverse
14 since the beginning. Thank you.

15 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Gerry
16 Dombrowski.

17 MR. MCGOFF: Could I just for
18 clarification purposes? The Scranton dinner
19 that is held in New York City is not
20 conducted by the University of Scranton,
21 it's an organization that's been conducting
22 that dinner I think somewhere 1920's or
23 30's.

24 MS. EVANS: I think he may have been
25 referring to the dinner during which the

1 University honored the Lynett family for its
2 years of service providing the newspaper.

3 MR. MCGOFF: Okay.

4 MS. EVANS: But I don't know when
5 that was, I'm sorry.

6 MR. DOMBROSKI: Members of council
7 of the City of Scranton, I stand before you
8 a resident of the city for many years. A
9 veteran of the Vietnam era, a retired
10 person. I stand here and I ask why
11 ordinances, laws and regulations made by
12 this council body are just not enforced.

13 I have been complaining to the
14 appropriate enforcement body of this city
15 for many years of a business established in
16 a residential area zoned R1 that is
17 prohibited by your own zoning laws. I have
18 been told by your representative on several
19 occasions that it's only one truck and other
20 lame rational. The fact of the matter is
21 there are three trucks. There are two
22 trailers. Two of the trucks are equipped
23 with beepers that are very disturbing to the
24 peace of the residential area when countless
25 trips are made in and out of the

1 neighborhood. I have been many photographs,
2 many photographs and some videos, but your
3 representative says they are not important
4 as he must catch the wrongdoing. How does
5 one go about requesting that he do his job
6 on Froude Ave?

7 Three days this week I had called
8 the police to report diesel vehicle noise,
9 fumes and noise of loading and unloading,
10 doors slamming, at an early hour of the
11 morning. It starts at 6:30 a.m. The first
12 day I don't think the police responded. The
13 second day I saw the police respond and
14 eventually the owner of this illegal located
15 business shut down his vehicle. The
16 policeman then watched as one of the
17 employees or partners noisily unloaded
18 construction debris to be picked up by the
19 city garbage removal. Which is another
20 illegal operation that I have witnesses and
21 reported on several occasions. This was
22 also submitted to no avail because the owner
23 of this illegally located business is the
24 offspring of a worker at the city's own DPW.
25 Which brings to mind the unusual

1 circumstances that this property was
2 acquired by a then 21 year old and
3 immediately afterwards the DPW made
4 improvements to the driveway, the alley, and
5 other drainage problems surrounding the
6 property while the elderly woman who lived
7 there before couldn't even get the city to
8 clean her gutter.

9 Now, I question you, doesn't it seem
10 that the person in charge of enforcing these
11 regulations in the city relating to zoning
12 is either getting paid off or is he related
13 to this business illegally located in this
14 residential area? Why has this gone on for
15 so long? Why have my complaints been swept
16 under the rug? Why won't the mayor's office
17 even do anything? And finally I ask, why
18 when I approached a member of the city
19 council with this problem very little was
20 done?

21 Wait a minute here, you make the
22 laws, and the people who are supposed to
23 enforce them don't. It sounds like a house
24 cleaning is needed starting anywhere you
25 wish, the top, the bottom, anywhere

1 in-between. I really don't care where you
2 start just as long as the business is banned
3 from occupying space in this residential
4 area immediately.

5 There are many others in this
6 residential area that are totally fed up
7 with this business and the noise generated
8 by the owner, who is the son of a Scranton
9 DPW worker and seemingly exempt from
10 penalties. There are many others that are
11 concerned that their property values are
12 effected negatively by the city's lack of
13 enforcement of laws and ordinances. I
14 believe that they will also come here to
15 demand this business be banned from
16 operating in the location it is, and be
17 banned from having any commercial vehicles
18 from being parked overnight or even being in
19 this residential zone at any time.

20 There is lot more to tell that there
21 isn't time for right now, stuff that would
22 get your dander up as well.

23 I purposely left the names out of
24 this, I have furnished them on page two of a
25 copy of this for your referenced. I expect

1 nothing less than immediate action of the
2 enforcement of the city's zoning laws.

3 Thank you for your time.

4 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

5 MR. DEMBROSKY: It was a relief that
6 you didn't have to listen to complaints
7 about the taxes; right?

8 MS. EVANS: Is there anyone else who
9 cares to address council?

10 MR. DOBRZYN: Good evening, Council.
11 Dave Dobrzyn, resident, taxpayer. Okay,
12 Mrs. Bolus ws mentioning these and I have
13 previously mentioned refuse fees for
14 institutions and that sounds like a pretty
15 good idea to me. It's about time that we
16 stopped begging and start insisting on a
17 fair share of tax poor tax exempts and I'm
18 not going to call them on nonprofits because
19 they are certainly not. Some are, some
20 aren't.

21 And I mentioned a couple of weeks
22 ago about a sewer fee, it seems like, and
23 I'm going to do some research on this, I'll
24 let you know after the first of the year,
25 that they are not charging our consumption

1 charge, they are just charging a flat fee.
2 It seems like they are not tracking any
3 consumption of water on my bill, so that's a
4 concern because we wanted to try and
5 encourage people to use less water and it's
6 not being done.

7 And on a 5-B we have an ordinance on
8 fire and burglar alarms apparently and --

9 MS. EVANS: Yes.

10 MR. DOBRZYN: -- I might mention in
11 a book I read recently, I think it was the
12 "Free Lunch" book by David K. Johnston how
13 Tyko and Dennis Kozolsky who is currently in
14 prison for malfeasance, corporate
15 malfeasance, actually dumped the
16 responsibility of their company for
17 guaranteeing the safety of these properties
18 onto the police force in big cities like New
19 York and when people were reporting muggings
20 and problems in parks, park managers in New
21 York City would call the police and it would
22 take them three hours because they were so
23 busy answering false alarms, so I think
24 that's a step in the right direction.

25 Now, a few weeks ago or months ago

1 we turned back money from the SAFER grant.
2 Once again, I'll make note that it was
3 nobody from council though it was a great
4 idea to do, and we have an issue here
5 tonight with pay raises, and my suggestion
6 is let's keep our heads. Why don't we tie
7 the pay raises to a timely audit. If
8 somebody is more than 30 days late with
9 their audit, they get to give the money back
10 from the person first of the year. How
11 about that? Wouldn't that be wonderful? I
12 mean, we still don't have an audit from last
13 year I believe, so if they want their 20, 30
14 percent pay raise well then were don't they
15 come up with a the timely audit and then
16 they are doing their jobs and maybe they
17 deserve a pay raise. And, therefore, we
18 won't be falling prey to the editorials in
19 the Times-Tribune, the editorial page. I
20 mean, let's keep our heads. I don't want to
21 become a puppet to them just because they
22 said that these people don't deserve the
23 raise or whatever or this person or that
24 person is the only one getting the raise.
25 How about if we get to pay for performance

1 for a change?

2 It's really ashamed how late these
3 audits have been and I feel that they are
4 the cause of some of our current problems,
5 so that's something to consider. If they
6 don't come up with their, was it May 30 is
7 the due date for the audit, how about by
8 June 30 they get to start paying back? We
9 start deducting money out of their wages to
10 pay back to the first of the year for not
11 doing their jobs properly.

12 All right, got a new thing here.
13 Free lunch for billionaires, the 800 block
14 of Moosic Street there must be 12 plus
15 excavations on there, patches. It's about a
16 year old. At least, that's conservative 12
17 patches. They tore up places where the
18 street was painted, crosswalks were painted,
19 it was recently paved and here we have, you
20 know, and it looks like hell. And it's
21 really ashamed, but it's free lunch for
22 billionaires time, so us peasants have a lot
23 of nerve pushing that.

24 And, okay, I'll just make it quick
25 the golden parrot goes to the Blankfein,

1 Goldman, Sachs CEO, he gets a \$25 million a
2 year salary and he thinks that we should
3 start deducting money off of social security
4 recipients and we have McCain, Snow and
5 Grands, they want to get rid of Rice, I
6 forget her first name, it's not Condalessa,
7 for the State Department head to replace
8 Hillary Clinton. Now, the little punch line
9 will is that if John Kerry is next in line
10 then we have an empty seat and we have to
11 have a new Senate election so how
12 convenient. How convenient. So thank you
13 and have a good night and don't forget,
14 bawk, bawk, bawk.

15 MR. JOYCE: Thank you.

16 MR. UNGVARSKY: Good evening, city
17 council.

18 MR. LOSCOMBE: Good evening.

19 MR. UNGVARSKY: I'm Tom Ungvarsky.
20 I never thought that I would agree with the
21 Scranton Times. Last week they had an
22 editorial in explaining or pointing out the
23 raises this administration is giving out to
24 their employees. It's hard to explain to
25 people who are on social security and are

1 lucky to get a 2 percent increase and they
2 are proposing as much as a 30 percent
3 increase on people who have a high income to
4 start or a higher income to start.

5 I hope -- well, it seems as though a
6 year ago city council was recommending that
7 everyone on the city's payroll take a 10
8 percent cut in their salaries. All of a
9 sudden this year, when we are in worse
10 financial shape, we are asking for higher
11 salary increases. I hope city council will
12 reconsider and do what's right by the people
13 of this city.

14 A year has passed since anything has
15 been said about insurance broker. Has the
16 city gotten any bids or are we soliciting
17 any bids from insurance brokers for the
18 city's insurances?

19 MS. EVANS: Not that I'm aware of,
20 but it's very coincidental that you raise
21 this issue tonight because --

22 MR. UNGVARSKY: I'm sorry, I didn't
23 hear that.

24 MS. EVANS: I said not that I'm
25 aware of, but it is very coincidental that

1 you raise this issue tonight because under
2 my motions I am going to be asking the BA
3 and the mayor when they intend to put this
4 out to bid.

5 MR. UNGVARSKY: Well, that's been
6 hanging for two years.

7 MS. EVANS: Yes, it has.

8 MR. UNGVARSKY: This is the second
9 year and apparently nothing has been done.
10 Well, perhaps he has a better connection
11 than other brokers. Thank you.

12 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

13 MR. SLEDENZSKI: Jackie.

14 MR. LOSCOMBE: Chrissy.

15 MR. SLEDENZSKI: Hello, Janet.

16 MS. EVANS: Hi, Chrissy.

17 MR. LOSCOMBE: Chris, where is your
18 Dunmore hat? You got support them.

19 MR. SLEDENZSKI: I hid it. I hid
20 it. I was going to put it on.

21 MR. LOSCOMBE: You support all our
22 games.

23 MR. SLEDENZSKI: Is it okay if I
24 wear it?

25 MS. EVANS: You can wear it.

1 MS. LOSCOMBE: There you go.

2 MR. SLEDENZSKI: Loss of luck to
3 West Side, Pat.

4 MR. LOSCOMBE: Now you look right.

5 MR. SLEDENZSKI: They are playing
6 tonight, so, Dunmore, good luck tomorrow.
7 Whip them good. Thank you.

8 MS. EVANS: That's right.

9 MR. LOSCOMBE: Thanks, Chrissy.

10 MS. SCHUMACHER: He didn't show you
11 the shirt he is hiding under that jacket
12 either. Marie Schumacher, city resident and
13 taxpayer. First, I'd like to thank the
14 firefighters, I understand they are going
15 back to three per piece of equipment instead
16 of four; is that true?

17 MR. LOSCOMBE: On some pieces of
18 equipment so they can man Engine 7 and
19 Engine 4.

20 MS. SCHUMACHER: Yeah, I appreciate
21 that. Will we have the audit before next
22 Monday's public hearing?

23 MR. JOYCE: At this point, no.

24 MS. SCHUMACHER: Unbelievable.

25 After a review of the addition of Section 28

1 to File of Council 71 of 2012 it appears the
2 amendments impact is the bond proceeds will
3 be used to pay the 2011 or 2013 unfunded
4 debt service which circumvents the need for
5 increasing the 12 percent real estate tax
6 and ignores the decree of Judge O'Brien that
7 the unfunded debt is to be repaid through an
8 increase in the millage dedication of the
9 real estate taxes over a ten-year period.

10 If I'm not correct, I ask Mr. Joyce
11 to explain the intent and the effect of
12 Section 28 during motions.

13 Mr. Rogan, do we have a finite
14 answer on whether or not the Moosic Street
15 property being marketed by the Pizano
16 Partnership is collateral for their \$4
17 million no interest loan?

18 MR. ROGAN: Not yet, only what I
19 sent you this morning, and I will be
20 following up some more.

21 MS. SCHUMACHER: Thank you.
22 Mr. Loscombe, can you tell me what are the
23 number of false alarms been for the last
24 year for the last three years or in the
25 range?

1 MR. LOSCOMBE: I would have to check
2 on that.

3 MS. SCHUMACHER: Would you have that
4 for next week?

5 MR. LOSCOMBE: Sure.

6 MS. SCHUMACHER: Thank you.

7 MR. LOSCOMBE: For the year you
8 said; right?

9 MS. SCHUMACHER: For three years by
10 year, yes. Thank you. Trash bills, I have
11 been reading in the paper about all of these
12 bills going back to the 1990's and the
13 Pennsylvania Municipal Records Act says that
14 you only have to go back seven years, so I
15 don't know how the city can legitimately if
16 they haven't been doing their job and
17 collecting the taxes when they were due or
18 when they were delinquent can go back to
19 three years or more. I do have, and I'll
20 give Jamie a copy of the financial and
21 purchasing records under that legislation.

22 What is the status of the amendment
23 to restrict rental registration inspections
24 to safety items only?

25 MR. MCGOFF: Do not know.

1 MS. SCHUMACHER: A status of the
2 amendments to include exemptions from the
3 amusement tax?

4 MS. EVANS: That will be amended
5 this evening. We actually received the
6 language from the legal department following
7 our last meeting and so our Finance Chair
8 will be making those amendments this
9 evening.

10 MS. SCHUMACHER: Thank you.

11 MR. JOYCE: Yes, I'll be amending
12 that later.

13 MS. SCHUMACHER: And what has been
14 the revenue collected to date on the parking
15 tax both in gross dollars and the number of
16 entities billed and the number of entities
17 who have responded with payment?

18 MR. JOYCE: I don't have a breakdown
19 by number -- or by the exact entities who
20 have responded and paid. I know it was
21 around \$40,000 as of September 30, 2011, but
22 I will contact the appropriate party and get
23 those figures by actual --

24 MS. SCHUMACHER: If everybody had
25 paid, what would it be? Do you know how

1 many slots there were?

2 MR. JOYCE: Well, if everyone paid
3 it would be close to PEL's projection of
4 \$500,000.

5 MS. SCHUMACHER: So we are little
6 bit shy, okay. Okay, yeah, that would be a
7 little helpful. The borrowing of an
8 additional \$25 million in 2013 for back
9 taxes will be -- or back pay for the police
10 and fire, and an increased MMO for funding
11 pensions, does this mean the new lease rent
12 agreement will no longer be pursued?

13 MR. JOYCE: Could you repeat that?
14 I'm sorry, I didn't hear the whole question.

15 MS. SCHUMACHER: Yeah, the plan for
16 2013 is to borrow an additional \$25 million
17 for I assume the Supreme Court decision?

18 MR. JOYCE: Yes.

19 MS. SCHUMACHER: And in the past,
20 and I believe it's in the recovery plan,
21 revised recovery plan, that it would be a
22 lease rental to do that, to accomplish that,
23 so has that gone by the wayside and there
24 will no lease rental of any further
25 properties that the city owns?

1 MR. JOYCE: Well, it will either be
2 the 25 million or the combination of the
3 sale of leaseback and additional borrowing
4 to pay off the Supreme Court award solely.

5 MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay. How much
6 interest do we owe on that to date, on the
7 Supreme Court ruling not having paid for
8 over a year? I asked that once before and
9 you were going to check it.

10 MR. JOYCE: I don't know the number
11 offhand hand but I will go back and check it
12 again.

13 MS. SCHUMACHER: Thank you. And
14 last spring the council approved a similar
15 grant application for 500 Cedar Avenue, do
16 we know whether or not that grant has been
17 approved or are we still waiting or when
18 will we hear on that?

19 MR. ROGAN: I can check into that as
20 well.

21 MS. SCHUMACHER: Thank you. How
22 much rent is OECD paying to the city? I
23 remember when Mrs. Gatelli was here and
24 talked about when OECD was located in the
25 building in prior years and the rental

1 amount was I believe in the thousands per
2 month, so how much are we getting and how
3 much is in the 2013 budget, let me put it
4 that way, for rent from OECD?

5 MR. ROGAN: I didn't see any when I
6 looked through the budget. I could be
7 wrong. It didn't look like there was a line
8 item in there.

9 MR. JOYCE: No, there wasn't a line
10 item in there for a rental fee from OECD
11 though I know they -- in speaking with our
12 business administrator I do know that they
13 will be contributing to the utilities of the
14 building and that's broken down by the
15 square footage of space that they occupy in
16 comparison to the square footage of the
17 space and the entire city hall building.

18 MS. SCHUMACHER: Okay, well, I
19 thought that was one of the prime movers and
20 shakers for getting them back into the
21 building, not only because there was space,
22 but for the additional revenue that they
23 were paying to another entity so I'm rather
24 surprised that they we don't have a line
25 item for that.

1 MS. EVANS: Well, actually another
2 benefit of the move is that federal funds
3 then under the category of administration
4 are no longer used for rental payments, so
5 that would free up the thousands per month
6 that have been paid previously to be
7 allocated to the projects that are far more
8 beneficial within the City of Scranton.

9 MS. SCHUMACHER: Well, I understand
10 that, but the way our loans have apparently
11 have been going I don't think they are
12 benefiting very many people because I just
13 learned today of another company that went
14 out of business that had a two hundred -- or
15 a quarter of a million dollar loan, so if I
16 may just do three more quick -- or two more
17 quick items?

18 On a trip down Providence Road I
19 noticed that there is "For Sale" sign on the
20 vacant land between the new road that goes
21 into the Ice Box where the gas station there
22 and car wash, is it safe to assume that this
23 parcel is not part of the property being
24 leased by BRT Ice? Does anybody he know?

25 MS. EVANS: I don't know.

1 MS. SCHUMACHER: I didn't have a
2 chance to get to the county to check that
3 myself, and then the parking finally, the
4 parking structure operators they were bumped
5 from a scheduled caucus quite some time ago,
6 will they be here for a caucus before the
7 end of this year?

8 MS. EVANS: No.

9 MS. SCHUMACHER: Thank you.

10 MS. EVANS: Is there anyone else?

11 MS. MARCIANO: FIFTH ORDER.

12 MS. EVANS: Rather than proceeding
13 in our traditional order, I will call upon
14 Councilman Joyce, our Finance Chairman, to
15 present the proposed 2013 operating budget
16 to the public at this time.

17 MR. JOYCE: Thank you. Just as long
18 that's fine with my colleagues.

19 MR. ROGAN: Absolutely.

20 MR. MCGOFF: While Mr. Joyce is
21 doing that, I apologize for arriving late, I
22 just wanted to -- I had an announcement to
23 make and I got here at the tail end.

24 MR. JOYCE: Sure, take your time.

25 MR. MCGOFF: Matthew's Mission,

1 which was created in memory of Matthew
2 Newell, is having a breakfast with Santa.
3 That it Saturday, December 8, at Scranton
4 High School. There are two sittings, one at
5 9:00 and one at 10:30 a.m. In the past it
6 has been -- it has had a great attendance,
7 so they are asking if you plan on attending
8 to call fr reservations so that they can
9 provide the space. You need to contact
10 Kathleen Hackus at 570-961-0818. T Kathleen
11 Hackus at 570-961-0818 for the breakfast
12 with santa sponsored by Matthew's Mission.
13 Thank you. Sorry, Mr. Joyce.

14 MR. JOYCE: Oh, that's okay.

15 Tonight, I'm sorry I have my back turned to
16 the public, it's the way that the plugs are
17 setup in here and the seating arrangements,
18 I'd like to face the public if I could, but,
19 unfortunately, I can't.

20 To begin tonight, I'm going to
21 discuss the 2013 operating budget and it's
22 my goal just to educate my colleagues as
23 well as the public about the budget, go over
24 some of the revenue and expenditures and
25 some of the cuts that were made to the

1 budget that was proposed, so let's begin.

2 On November 15, 2012, of this year
3 the administration submitted the budget to
4 Scranton City Council as required by the
5 Home Rule Charter. November 15, is the
6 deadline. The budget process was primarily
7 carried out by the administration in regard
8 to projections of revenue and expenditures,
9 though I did offer some input. I did see
10 some of the revenue and expenditure
11 projections ahead of time and I offered some
12 of my comments into these figures.

13 Prior to the budget being released,
14 I met with Mayor Doherty, Councilwoman Evans
15 and Business Administrator Ryan McGowan to
16 discuss large budget matters and as promised
17 by the recovery plan, the tax increase was
18 limited to 12 percent.

19 So my goal was to take a proactive
20 approach to the budget this year and work
21 with the administration so that the budget
22 issued would not be greatly amended. As you
23 may know from previous years, the amendments
24 to the operating budget they took nearly
25 probably I'd say 30 minutes to an hour long

1 just to read off unless, of course, you are
2 Boyd Hughes and you can read faster, but
3 anyhow this is important to returning the
4 trust of the banking community as the city
5 looks to close on borrowing for unfunded
6 debt and future borrowing to fund the
7 Supreme Court award won by the fire police
8 and fire unions.

9 Now, some may be asking, well, why
10 is this budget so high, it's \$109 million
11 and it was \$85 million in change last year.
12 So essentially the city will incur some
13 extra expenses this year in opposition from
14 last year due to some major reasons, and the
15 primary reason why the budget numbers is so
16 high is the Supreme Court award in favor of
17 the fire and police unions. This will cost
18 the city over \$17 million. This amount
19 could have been well in excess of \$30
20 million if it were not for the negotiations
21 efforts of some council members and the
22 administration to mitigate the award.

23 Debt service attribute to the
24 Supreme Court award. Because the city will
25 need to borrow the money to pay the Supreme

1 Court award since it doesn't have the cash
2 on hand, this will result in an additional
3 \$1.5 million in debt service payments this
4 year.

5 There will be an increase in the
6 MMO, which stands for minimum municipal
7 obligation, to fund pension payments. The
8 MMO required for the city to fund pension
9 payments 2013 will be \$9.85 million
10 according to a study conducted by Thomas
11 Anderson. In 2012, the MMO was \$4.4
12 million. Therefore, in one year we are
13 seeing an MMO increase of \$5.1 million in
14 2013.

15 And also, with the Supreme Court
16 award there were standards set for the
17 number of officers that must be working
18 during each shift. These standards are
19 projected to result in nearly \$400,000 in
20 overtime expenses.

21 So to go on more about the budget,
22 overall there were three positions added.
23 Two of these positions, financial analyst in
24 the Business Administrator's Office, and the
25 rental registration coordinator in LIPS were

1 added due to the recent clerical union
2 contract.

3 One position, an accountant in the
4 BA's Office, was added to assist with duties
5 in the office and the city will be applying
6 for grant funding through the state to fund
7 the compensation for this position.

8 Positions relating to the on-street
9 parking program were not added and these
10 employees will become employees of Standard
11 Parking once they fully take over parking
12 collection operations in 2013.

13 Raises were awarded to six
14 employees, as many of the speakers mentioned
15 tonight, and I believe that these raises
16 should be scaled down and/or eliminated for
17 certain employees as I believe the only
18 raising that should be awarded are the
19 people that truly worked tirelessly to keep
20 the city afloat in a time when it could have
21 went bankrupt.

22 So first I want to discuss revenue
23 and then I'll move onto expenditures for a
24 bit. First up in revenue that I'll speak
25 about are real estate taxes. The real

1 estate tax as promised by the revised
2 recovery plan will be limited to 12 percent
3 in 2013. Real estate taxes in 2012 were
4 projected to generate nearly \$14 million, as
5 you can see by the slide. In 2013, real
6 estate taxes were projected to generate
7 nearly \$15.7 million, so the 12 percent tax
8 increase will generate an additional
9 \$1,698,000 in revenue for the city.

10 The 12 percent tax increase is also
11 Court ordered in order to repay unfunded
12 debt borrowing that occurred in 2012.

13 The delinquent real estate taxes.
14 The collection of the delinquent real estate
15 taxes has been projected to be \$2,100,000.
16 The projection of delinquent real estate
17 taxes has been projected to be \$2,000 higher
18 than last year's projection of \$1.9 million.
19 As of September 30, 2012, the collection of
20 delinquent real estate taxes was already
21 over the \$2.1 million mark as it was
22 \$2,134,620.81 constituting the projection of
23 increased collections.

24 In 2013, the process will stay the
25 same. The Single Tax Office will continue

1 to collect prior year delinquent real estate
2 taxes. Years prior to 2012 will be
3 collected by Northeast Revenue Services,
4 commonly referred to as NRS.

5 Refuse fees. The refuse fee will
6 remain at \$178 in 2013 as dictated by the
7 revised recovery plan and the collection of
8 refuse fees was projected at \$5.1 million in
9 2012. Due to this number not being met, the
10 projection of refuse fees in 2013 has been
11 projected to be \$4.55 million, so it's been
12 decided to take a more conservative approach
13 in regard to the projection of revenue since
14 we are not meeting that \$5.1 million mark
15 this year.

16 Utility tax. It will not change in
17 2013. The amount of revenue generated by
18 the utility tax was projected to be \$58,826
19 in 2012. In 2013, the amount of revenue to
20 be received by the utility tax has been
21 projected to be \$61,000, so it's very
22 synonymous.

23 Non-resident wage tax, and I would
24 like to cypher between this and the commuter
25 tax because I'm not referring to the

1 commuter tax right now. Non-resident wage
2 tax collections have been projected to
3 generate \$400,000 in revenue in 2013. The
4 amount of revenue projected to be generated
5 in 2012 was \$500,000, however, due to
6 collections being less than projected for
7 the Year 2012 this amount has been lowered
8 for 2013.

9 The non-resident wage tax is a 1
10 percent wage tax on individuals residing in
11 communities where no wage taxes are
12 collected. You commonly hear these funds
13 referred to by council members as 888 funds.

14 Local taxes governed by Act 511.
15 The Local Tax Enabling Act, which is Act 511
16 of the State of Pennsylvania, allows
17 municipalities to levy certain taxes. Local
18 taxes are Scranton greatest source of
19 revenue generations and the taxes governed
20 by the Local Tax Enabling Act are the real
21 estate transfer tax, the wage tax, the
22 mercantile tax, the local services tax, or
23 LST, the business privilege tax, the parking
24 tax, the commuter tax, which is pending
25 Court approval, and the amusement tax. I'll

1 go into some of these taxes right now.

2 The real estate transfer tax is the
3 first tax that I'll talk about tonight under
4 this category, and the real estate transfer
5 tax, as dictated by the revised recovery
6 plan, will increase from 2.8 percent to 2.9
7 percent in 2013, which is roughly a 3.5
8 percent increase.

9 The amount of revenue projected to
10 be generated in 2012 was \$4,344,827. Though
11 this tax was increased in 2013, the amount
12 of revenue projected to be generated is
13 \$2,685,000 and one might be wondering, well,
14 if the tax was projected to be increased --
15 or if the tax was increased why is the
16 projection lower and the amount of revenue
17 that has been projected in 2013 is lower
18 than 2012 due to some large one-time real
19 estate transfer tax revenue from the sale of
20 the former Mercy Hospital and Moses Taylor
21 Hospital to CSH.

22 Overall, the increase in the real
23 estate transfer tax is projected to generate
24 \$185,000 in additional revenue than what
25 would have been generated if the rate were

1 kept the same, so if the rate were kept the
2 same we would be looking at \$2.5 million
3 rather than \$2.685 million.

4 The wage tax. The wage tax for
5 Scranton residents will remain the same at
6 2.4 percent. I remember know that some
7 people have the common misconception that
8 3.4 percent of wages go to the city,
9 however, that's not true. 2.4 percent of
10 the 3.4r percent overall wage tax goes to
11 the city while the other 1 percent goes to
12 the Scranton School District.

13 Anyhow, the amount of wage tax
14 revenue projected to be received in 2012 was
15 \$21,900,000. The amount of wage tax revenue
16 projected to be received in 2013 is
17 \$22,300,000.

18 The amount of wage tax revenue is
19 projected to be higher due to PEL's
20 projection of an annual rise in wages by
21 1.75 percent.

22 The mercantile tax. The mercantile
23 tax will be increased from .875 mills as it
24 is this year, to 1 mill in 2013. This is
25 also dictated by the revised recovery plan

1 and constitutes at 14.3 percent increase.

2 The amount of mercantile tax revenue
3 projected to be received in 2012 was
4 \$1,224,064.50. Due to the increase in the
5 mercantile tax, the amount projected to be
6 received in 2013 is \$1,424,064.

7 The amount of mercantile tax revenue
8 that the city projects to receive is nearly
9 \$200,000 higher due to the increase in the
10 tax. This tax, though it's being increased,
11 is being returned to it's 2010 level before
12 it was decreased in 2011.

13 The business privilege tax, it's a
14 similar scenario to the mercantile tax in
15 that the business privilege tax will be
16 increased from .875 mills in 2012 to 1 mill
17 in 2013, which is dictated by the revised
18 recovery plan and is also a 14.3 percent
19 increase.

20 The amount of revenue projected to
21 be received in 2012 from the business
22 privilege tax was \$536,375. Due to the
23 increase in the business privilege tax, the
24 amount projected to be received in 2013 is
25 \$850,000.

1 The amount of business privilege tax
2 revenue that the city projects will be
3 received is nearly \$313,625 higher due to
4 the increase. And this tax, like the
5 mercantile tax, though it is being increased
6 is being returned to it's 2010 level before
7 it was decreased in 2011.

8 The local services tax. The local
9 services tax, or LST, which was \$52 in 2012
10 will remain the same in 2013 as required by
11 law.

12 The amount of revenue to be
13 generated by the LST in 2012 was projected
14 at \$1.734 million. Because this figure is
15 likely not being met this year, the amount
16 of revenue to be generated by the LST in
17 2013 is being projected a \$1.65 million.

18 The parking tax. The parking tax,
19 which is the 10 percent tax on parking
20 garages and lot fees where one is required
21 to pay to park will remain the same in 2013.

22 The amount of revenue to be
23 generated by the parking -- by parking tax
24 collections in 2012 was \$500,000. Because
25 it is unlikely that the \$500,000 target will

1 be met, the amount of revenue to be
2 generated in 2013 is projected to be
3 \$225,000.

4 The commuter tax. The commuter tax,
5 which is pending Court approval, if granted
6 will be a 1 percent tax on the wages of
7 individuals working in Scranton that do not
8 reside in the city.

9 According to projections by PEL, the
10 amount of revenue that the commuter tax will
11 generate for Scranton in 2013 is \$2.5
12 million. A Court hearing is scheduled for
13 December 10 to decide if Scranton will be
14 allowed to levy this tax.

15 The amusement tax. In 2013, a 5
16 percent tax will be levied on amusements.
17 Amusements that are impacted by this tax
18 will primarily be tickets to concerts and
19 amusement venues throughout Scranton. This
20 tax is limited to for profit organizations
21 and the amount of revenue to be generated by
22 the amusement tax in 2013 is projected to be
23 \$200,000.

24 Now that we have concluded the Act
25 511 taxes we'll look at some other revenue

1 items. First is penalties and interest on
2 tea delinquent taxes. In 2013, penalty and
3 interest revenue projections on delinquent
4 taxes will be the same.

5 The amount of penalty and interest
6 revenue that is projected to be received in
7 2013 is \$54,400.

8 Also, unlike 2012, the city will
9 charge a \$25 fee for searches related to
10 delinquent real estate taxes, refuse fees,
11 liens and condemnations. This is projected
12 to generate an additional \$50,000 in
13 revenue.

14 Licenses and permits. In 2013,
15 licenses and permits revenue is projected to
16 be higher than in 2012.

17 In 2012, the projected amount of
18 revenue to be generated by Licenses and
19 Permits was projected to be \$2,681,230.

20 In 2013, this is projected to
21 increase to \$3,445,062.50.

22 This is an overall increase of
23 \$763,832.50.

24 The amount of revenue generated
25 through License and Permits is projected to

1 rise due to the expansion of Geisinger as
2 well as the receipt of fees through a third
3 party planning review process.

4 Fines, forfeits and violations. In
5 2013, fines, forfeits and violations revenue
6 is projected to be higher than in 2012.

7 Scranton will entering into a contract with
8 Standard Parking to have them provide meter
9 collection and fine issues for the city.

10 The implementation of smart meters will also
11 take place in 2013. These technological
12 advancements will be help generate more
13 revenue and IPS, in case anybody is
14 wondering, was the company chosen for the
15 meter upgrades.

16 Another topic under this section is
17 Scranton will also be looking into
18 establishing a city-owned storage yard,
19 which fees will be collected for abandoned
20 and towed vehicles. If this does not
21 happen, a suitable replacement for the
22 revenue projected to be made will be found.

23 The overall amount of revenue
24 projected to be collected in 2012 in fines,
25 forfeits and violations was \$1,169,200. In

1 2013, the amount projected to be collected
2 is \$1,755,500, which is an overall increase
3 of \$586,300.

4 Interest earnings. Interest
5 earnings are earnings that are generated on
6 the accumulation of interest on money that
7 the city has in the bank. This past year
8 interest earnings were rather low as the
9 city has not had a lot of cash on-hand in
10 the bank, however, as was the case last
11 year, the projection for interest earnings
12 will remain the same at \$10,000 as the city
13 expects to have more in the bank this year
14 than we had over the previous year.

15 Rents and concessions. Rents and
16 concessions revenue is generated through the
17 rental of city-owned facilities to
18 residents. Like 2012, rents and concessions
19 revenue is projected to remain constant at
20 \$28,000.

21 Intergovernmental reimbursements.
22 In 2013, the only intergovernmental
23 reimbursement that the city is projected to
24 receive is state pension aid totaling
25 \$2,921,682.

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In 2012, the city received less pension aid from the state, however, the city did receive a loan from the state in addition to FEMA emergency permits.

PILOTS. PILOTS, for those who do not know, are payments in lieu of taxes that the city receives on an annual basis from various nonprofit institutions.

In 2013, the mayor has agreed to aggressively pursue nonprofits for PILOTS. Consistent with the recovery plan, the amount projected to be received is \$1.3 million.

In case this has not received, extra money has been set aside as an expenditure in contingency to make up for shortfalls.

Departmental earnings. Departmental earnings consist of revenue earned through parking meters, the zoning board, pave cuts, and the police and fire department through report copies and false alarms.

In 2012, the amount of revenue generated through departmental earns was projected to be \$1,821,000. In 2013, the amount of revenue projected to be generated

1 through departmental earnings is \$2,308,500.
2 This is an overall increase of \$487,500.
3 The increase in revenue can be partially
4 attributed to the installation of smart
5 meters by IPS and the increase in revenue
6 can also be attributed to an increase in the
7 charge for false alarms, which is an agenda
8 item tonight.

9 In 2013, there will be no charge for
10 a first false alarm, a \$500 charge for a
11 second and third false alarm, and a \$1,000
12 charge for a fourth false alarm and any
13 false alarm thereafter.

14 Moving onto user fees. User fees
15 are fees collected by the city's Parks and
16 Recreation Department for the use of
17 city-own property.

18 There are no expected changes to the
19 collection of user fees in 2013 in
20 comparison with 2012. In 2012, the amount
21 of revenue projected to be collected from
22 user fees was \$61,000. In 2013, the amount
23 of revenue projected is \$60,500.

24 Miscellaneous revenue and cable TV
25 revenue. The miscellaneous revenue category

1 consists of revenue that is not classified
2 in any other category.

3 In 2013, miscellaneous revenue
4 expected to be generated consists of market
5 based revenue opportunities, commonly
6 referred to by council members as MBRO's.
7 Repayment from the Ice Box development. The
8 city is going to aggressively pursue the
9 \$600,000 that's owed from the development of
10 the Ice Box Complex, and proceeds from a
11 2013 bond issuance which will cover the cost
12 of the Supreme Court award as well as
13 increased pension costs.

14 The amount of market based revenue
15 opportunities that the city is projected to
16 be received as dictated by PEL is \$353,421.
17 The amount that the city is expected to
18 receive from the repayment of the Ice Box
19 Development is \$600,000, and the amount that
20 the city is expected to receive through a
21 bond issuance to cover the cost of the
22 Supreme Court award and increased
23 Pennsylvania costs is \$25 million.

24 Interfund transfers. Interfund
25 transfers represents reimbursements from

1 third parties. Transfers from other funds
2 include reimbursement from insurance
3 companies relating to Workers' Compensation
4 excess from recovery payments and the other
5 type of interfund transfer represents liquid
6 fuels tax fund payments.

7 The amount of interfund transfers
8 projected to be realized in 2012 was
9 \$1,907,472.16. The amount of interfund
10 transfers to be realized in 2013 is
11 projected to be \$1,870,023.22 which is an
12 overall net decrease of \$37,448.94.

13 Funds from the liquid fuels funds
14 are generally used for maintenance,
15 construction and reconstruction of roads and
16 streets.

17 And finally on the revenue side, tax
18 anticipation note. A tax anticipation note
19 is a short-term loan designed to make ends
20 meet and keep the city afloat until taxes
21 and other revenues are realized throughout
22 the year.

23 In 2013, the city will seek one tax
24 anticipation note totaling \$14 million. The
25 lender for the tax anticipation note will be

1 Amalgamated Bank.

2 And now that we are done with
3 revenue I will move onto expenditures.

4 Expenditures overview. The amount
5 of expenditures in the operating budget is
6 equal to the amount of the revenue, which is
7 \$190,688,365.70. Expenditures have risen,
8 and I know this may be a little bit
9 repetitive, but I believe it's necessary so
10 everybody understands, expenditures have
11 risen primarily due to the Supreme Court
12 award, debt service for the Supreme Court
13 award, an increase to the MMO, and the
14 police overtime required by the Supreme
15 Court award.

16 Expenditures overview. Other
17 contributing factors to rising expenses
18 include salary increase for union employees,
19 the fire, police, clerical and DPW unions
20 due to their respective CBAs or collective
21 bargaining agreements.

22 Increases in longevity salary for
23 union employees. Increased debt service
24 costs due to the repayments of unfunded debt
25 and the inability to refinance debt to save

1 as much as was projected in 2012.

2 The refinancing of debt was
3 projected to save \$6.4 million in 2012. In
4 2013 the refinancing of debt is projected to
5 save the city \$4.6 million and change.
6 There is nothing that Scranton City Council
7 or the administration can do to limits these
8 expenditures.

9 Because expenditures increased in
10 2013 and no positions were eliminated,
11 department heads were asked to cut 10
12 percent of their departmental spending
13 outside of the employee compensation.

14 The following represents what cuts
15 were made in comparison to 2012 for the same
16 line items, and I won't read off the small
17 amounts for each, but I will go through each
18 office individually.

19 First, the mayor's office. Interest
20 were cuts made in dues and subscriptions and
21 travel and lodging totaling \$337, which is a
22 43 percent of departmental operating
23 expenses cut in that department.

24 City council. There were \$102,000
25 worth of cuts. These stem from professional

1 services and the service and maintenance
2 fee, which constituted 48 percent of
3 departmental operating expenditures cut.

4 The City Controller's Office. There
5 were \$288.34 of cuts, mainly in printing and
6 binding, dues and subscriptions and
7 stationery, which is 1 percent of
8 departmental operating expenditures cut.

9 The Business Administrator's Office.
10 There were cuts made in professional
11 services, printing and binding, dues and
12 subscriptions, materials and supplies, and
13 the SPA citation issuers since we will no
14 longer be paying the SPA for maintenance of
15 the meters. This was cut out. The
16 operation of the parking meters will be
17 taken over by Standard Parking and the
18 compensation will be included in their fees
19 in the amount of money that the city
20 receives. The total amount of cuts in the
21 BA's Office was \$564,999.53 and this is a 9
22 percent departmental operating expenditure
23 cut.

24 The HR Office. There were cuts in
25 professional services, materials and

1 supplies, and liability and casualty
2 insurance totalling \$72,667.38 and this
3 constituted a 6 percent departmental
4 operating expenditures percent cut.

5 IT, there was a 30 percent cut in
6 materials and supplies. This represented a
7 12 percent departmental operating
8 expenditure cut.

9 Treasury. The treasurer agreed to
10 cut professional services by \$20,635.50 and
11 this is a 36 percent cut of the Treasury
12 Department's operating expenditure.

13 Onto LIPS, license, inspections and
14 permits. In the LIPS administration
15 section, there were cuts to professional
16 services, dues and subscriptions,
17 stationery, training and certification, and
18 maintenance of communication equipment
19 totaling \$2,852.86 and this was a 6 percent
20 departmental operating expenditure cut.

21 LIPS buildings. There were cuts
22 made to professional services, services and
23 maintenance fees, building repair and
24 supplies, and small tools and supplies
25 totaling \$167,946.94 which is an 11 percent

1 departmental operating expenditure cut.

2 The police department. There were
3 cuts made in professional services, services
4 and maintenance fees, dues and
5 subscriptions, miscellaneous services
6 nonclassified, stationery, materials and
7 supplies, miscellaneous, travel and lodging,
8 training and certification, capital
9 expenditure and maintenance of communication
10 equipment totaling \$33,274 and this was a 14
11 percent cut of the police department's
12 operating expenditures.

13 The fire department. There were
14 cuts made in building repair supplies,
15 materials and supplies, air packs and rehab
16 supplies and maintenance of communication
17 equipment totaling \$4,799.19 and this did
18 not represent any percentage of operating
19 expenditures cut, though, I did want to
20 mention that there were was a trivial amount
21 of cuts in the fire department.

22 DPW administration. Maintenance of
23 the superfund site, flood projection system
24 and maintenance were all cut totaling
25 \$60,172.58. This represented a 39 percent

1 departmental operating expenditure cut.

2 DPW engineering, there were no cuts
3 made.

4 DPW highways. There were cuts made
5 in the services and maintenance fee, rental
6 vehicles and equipment, stationery,
7 construction material, paint and sign
8 material, materials and supplies
9 miscellaneous, salt, and capital
10 expenditures totaling \$78,585.14 and that
11 represented a 5 percent departmental
12 operating expenditure cut.

13 DPW refuse. Through an agreement of
14 forbearance of the landfill fees there was a
15 cut made of one million, two-thousand four
16 hundred and fifty dollars of landfill fees.
17 This is 63 percent decrease in their
18 operating expenses expenditure costs. This
19 forbearance of payment will need to be
20 repaid over a subsequent 36-month term,
21 however.

22 DPW garage. There were cuts made in
23 contracted services, stationery and small
24 tools totalling \$948, which is a 1 percent
25 departmental operating expenditure cut.

1 DPW Parks and Recreation. There
2 were cuts made to stationery, building
3 repairs supplies, medical, chemical and lab
4 supplies, performing arts, and the spring
5 and summer program totaling \$26,356.96 and
6 that represented a 15 percent cut of their
7 departmental operating expenditures.

8 No cuts were made in departmental
9 expenditures for the law department or OECD.

10 And just some final remarks, though
11 taxes had to be raised by 12 percent in
12 accordance with the Court order, every
13 effort was taken to limit the tax increase
14 to 12 percent and cuts were made where cuts
15 could be made and new revenue opportunities
16 were explored. I worked very diligently to
17 attend meetings with Mr. McGowan, the mayor,
18 Councilwoman Evans regarding the budget and
19 though there will be amendments made to the
20 budget, it will not be nearly anywhere as
21 lengthy as in years past.

22 And with that, I conclude my
23 presentation tonight.

24 MS. EVANS: Thank you, Councilman
25 Joyce. And, Councilman McGoff, do you have

1 any comments or motions?

2 MR. MCGOFF: Mr. Joyce, are you
3 prepared to answer questions about it or
4 should we wait until another time?

5 MR. JOYCE: It's up to you.

6 MR. MCGOFF: Mrs. Evans, I don't
7 know what your thoughts were on it?

8 MS. EVANS: No, you can certainly
9 pose your questions to Mr. Joyce or to Mr.
10 McGowan.

11 MR. MCGOFF: Just a few quick things
12 that I just wanted to determine, one of the
13 pie chart that's included with the budget,
14 these fire and DPW add up to about 79
15 percent of the expenditures. Do you know if
16 that includes health care costs for those
17 three?

18 MR. JOYCE: I believe it does. The
19 health care costs are separated out in the
20 expenditures for each department being fire,
21 police and DPW, so that I believe does
22 include the health care costs for those
23 three.

24 MR. MCGOFF: In the past it
25 sometimes was included with the

1 administration, so I wasn't sure if this
2 was -- the second thing, on the real estate
3 tax, the 12 percent increase is based on
4 millage --

5 MR. JOYCE: Yes.

6 MR. MCGOFF: -- or revenue? It's
7 based on the millage?

8 MR. JOYCE: Yes, I believe so. It's
9 a 12 percent millage increase.

10 MR. MCGOFF: And do you know what
11 collection rate is being used to arrive at
12 the figure?

13 MR. JOYCE: Mr. McGowan came up with
14 the millage rates for the --

15 MR. MCGOFF: So he would know.

16 MR. JOYCE: -- for the figure, but
17 I'm assuming it's 87 percent.

18 MR. MCGOFF: Was it 87 we did it at
19 last year? 87 or 82, something like that?

20 MR. JOYCE: I'm assuming it's 87
21 percent, but I can confirm it with him.

22 MR. MCGOFF: I'll check with Mr.
23 McGowan, and I think that was all I had for
24 now. Thank you very much.

25 MR. JOYCE: Thank you.

1 MR. ROGAN: I had two questions on
2 the budget and I know you probably want to
3 return to your seat.

4 MR. JOYCE: I do, but --

5 MR. ROGAN: -- the two questions
6 that I had, the one position in the Business
7 Administrator Office, it was mentioned that
8 that's trying to be funded by a grant;
9 correct?

10 MR. JOYCE: Correct.

11 MR. ROGAN: And all of the health
12 care would be paid for by the city or would
13 that be in the grant as well?

14 MR. JOYCE: I do not have full
15 clarification that the health care would be
16 paid by the grant, I'm assuming it would be
17 paid by the city and health care on average
18 is roughly \$12,500 for the average
19 individual.

20 MR. ROGAN: And the only other
21 question I had at this time, obviously,
22 there is much to talk about, was on the DPW
23 refuse, the amount of the cut, I believe, it
24 was a very high percentage because of the
25 decrease in the landfill fees for this year.

1 MR. JOYCE: Correct.

2 MR. ROGAN: But this is really in
3 essence borrowing and not a cut; correct?

4 MR. JOYCE: Well, I mentioned that
5 it's a forbearance of the payment, so you
6 could look at it as -- that's why I look at
7 it as -- some may view it as a cut, it's a
8 cut in the expenditure line item, however,
9 it's money that will have to be paid back at
10 a later date so you may want to call it a
11 borrowing expenditure.

12 MR. ROGAN: And that's all I have
13 for now, Mr. McGoff, sorry for interrupting
14 you.

15 MR. MCGOFF: That's quite all right.

16 MR. ROGAN: Thank you, Mr. Joyce.

17 MR. JOYCE: No problem.

18 MR. MCGOFF: Just two brief things.
19 First, I believe, Ms. Schumacher, maybe you
20 already know, but they have been doing work
21 at the intersection of River Street and
22 Meadow Avenue with the intent of placing
23 traffic signals, which I know residents have
24 been asking for many, many years and I'm not
25 sure that the timeline on that, I was told

1 that it would be relatively soon. Hopefully
2 relatively means within the -- hopefully by
3 the end of this calendar year, if not at
4 least early in the next calendar year.

5 And now that we have taken care of
6 that situation, the traffic light there, I
7 maybe move our intentions towards Orchard
8 Street and Cedar Avenue, which now with the
9 bridge closed there is increased traffic at
10 that intersection where you have the
11 entrance and exit from 81 or from the
12 expressway, the Central City Expressway, and
13 also Orchard Street and Cedar Avenue, it's
14 to me a very dangerous corner, so perhaps we
15 can move toward resolving that issue as
16 well.

17 And just a couple of last comments
18 on the budget, I know there has been a lot
19 said about the raising that are contained in
20 the budget, the concern I have and I -- I
21 can see that the raises for those positions
22 were earned for the most part, perhaps not
23 in the amounts that we are looking at, but I
24 believe that the people that are receiving
25 raises did, in fact, do tremendous work in

1 the past year.

2 My concern is that by including them
3 in this year's budget I think it was poor
4 timing. I'm not sure that we are sending
5 the right message, especially to the Courts
6 at this time when we are asking for
7 permission to seek a commuter tax and we are
8 turning around and saying that we do have
9 enough money to offer raises. I'm not sure
10 that that's the right message, but that's
11 something we can discuss in the future and
12 that's all I have. Thank you.

13 MS. EVANS: Thank you. And,
14 Councilman Rogan?

15 MR. ROGAN: Yes. I guess I only
16 have a few items to talk about as well and
17 they're actually the same ones Mr. McGoff
18 brought up, and I'll start with the traffic
19 first since that's a quicker item than the
20 budget. Mr. McGoff is right I actually
21 travel off the expressway five days a week
22 at the intersection of Orchard and Cedar and
23 it's a very difficult, very difficult
24 intersection and I'm surprised there is not
25 more accidents there, we are lucky that

1 there aren't.

2 Also, Mrs. Krake, I will send this
3 to you in an e-mail tomorrow, I have had
4 numerous complaints from residents in the
5 city about the new signalization program in
6 the downtown, many people, you know, they
7 see the camera up there and I've had
8 questions about whether the camera is on,
9 obviously they are not because that is
10 something that would have to be approved by
11 council, but from my understanding the
12 program is to know make traffic through
13 smoother in the downtown, so far from what I
14 have heard and what I have experienced it's
15 actually been worse. Now, maybe that's
16 because the whole program isn't up and
17 running yet.

18 But, Mrs. Krake, I will be sending
19 you all of that information, I believe it's
20 PennDOT that it would be going to, but I
21 will get that all to you tomorrow morning.

22 And, of course, on the hot issue of
23 the day the budget, I have made my positions
24 on the raises very clear, I think everyone
25 in the room knows what they are. I don't

1 believe at a time when, as I stated in the
2 paper, that when the city is raising taxes,
3 raising fees and when we are in dire
4 straights that we can be giving out raises
5 of these amounts. Now, whether the tax
6 increase is itemized to pay for borrowing or
7 whether it's itemized as a general revenue
8 item, at the end of the day the taxpayers
9 pay. Everyone's salary in the city. They
10 pay mine, they pay the mayor's, they pay
11 firemen, and the police, DPW, the clerical,
12 they pay everyone's in the administration
13 and we have to watch every dollar.

14 As I mentioned in the paper, if
15 Attorney Hughes' position is being moved to
16 full-time he should receive a full-time
17 salary for the position, I believe
18 Mr. Kelly's current salary would be
19 appropriate for that. That's not a \$15,000
20 raise though and I do agree that the council
21 solicitor has been doing more work and
22 because the city solicitor hasn't been doing
23 his job, so I don't see how it could be
24 proposed in a budget that both solicitors
25 receive a \$15,000 raise. Obviously there is

1 more work, but somebody is dropping the
2 ball.

3 And if you look at the last ten
4 years in the city it's been the city
5 solicitors that have been dropping the ball.
6 We are borrowing tens of millions of dollars
7 to pay for a Court case. Now, I know Mayor
8 Doherty also listened to legal advice from
9 the state, but his solicitors as well would
10 have him input on that. We have had
11 numerous complaints in this chamber about
12 Solicitor Kelly. I complained and I
13 screamed at the top of my lungs for a few
14 years about the conflict of interest with
15 Solicitor Kelly at the Parking Authority and
16 being on the city, being on both ends of
17 transactions and we saw how that ended, so I
18 don't see how an increase for Solicitor
19 Kelly could be justified.

20 Same thing for Mr. McGowan, it
21 wasn't too long ago when Mr. McGowan was
22 responsible for losing over a million
23 dollars of parking meter revenues that
24 magically reappeared. That's not the action
25 of somebody who deserves a \$10,000 a year

1 raise.

2 Furthermore, on the budget, the
3 projections for wage tax are to increase by
4 \$1.75 percent which I assume is the rate of
5 wage earning growth for the city as a whole,
6 so when the average person in the city is
7 getting a 1.75 percent raise I don't think
8 it's right to be giving 20 and 30 percent to
9 anyone, and not only anyone, but there are
10 people that are already making well in
11 excess of what the average Scrantonian
12 makes.

13 So, as I mentioned, I will be
14 putting together an amendment to remove
15 those raises. I hope it receives the votes
16 of my colleagues. I am encouraged some of
17 the comments that I have heard other members
18 are willing to reconsider what was placed in
19 the original budget, and I hope that will
20 happen.

21 Also on the budget, and this will be
22 ongoing of many other questions, everyone is
23 beginning to contact us as they dig deeper
24 and deeper into the budget, is the change
25 for towing and storage, and I believe it's

1 budgeted at \$300,000 to create a city lot,
2 and I should have asked Mr. Joyce this after
3 the presentation, I apologize, but would
4 that cover towing as well? Would that be
5 one contractor or towing remain the same?

6 MR. JOYCE: Would towing remain the
7 same?

8 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

9 MR. JOYCE: Towing would remain the
10 same, the city would be charging for a fee,
11 a storage fee, for an abandoned car or
12 vehicle, whether it be a semi or --

13 MS. EVANS: Actually, I think
14 Mr. Loscombe and I could comment on that
15 because we were in those meetings with Chief
16 Graziano and Corporal Bachman, and the
17 towers would continue tow all the vehicles,
18 but it had been the desire of the Scranton
19 Police Department for many years to
20 establish a storage yard for the City of
21 Scranton as is done in many other
22 municipalities and it is highly successful.
23 The site that was chosen was the lot behind
24 the Scranton Police Department, which is
25 covered by security cameras and members of

1 the police department would actually be
2 responsible for the operation of that
3 storage yard and it would not require -- it
4 would not require overtime or the hiring of
5 any additional police officers; and simply
6 by operating that storage yard the city
7 would see a revenue increase of \$300,000
8 alone simply on, for example, the vehicles
9 mentioned by Mr. Joyce. The vehicles, for
10 example, that are considered heavy towing,
11 those would be tractor trailers that are
12 stuck under bridges when towers are involved
13 in those incidents they are making upwards
14 of \$10,000 per tow and so that portion of it
15 has not even been calculated into that
16 \$300,000. That's very reasonable,
17 conservative figure.

18 MR. ROGAN: It is.

19 MS. EVANS: You know, the heavy duty
20 storage we would see far more.

21 MR. ROGAN: And as far as, you know,
22 average Joe, car breaks down in front of the
23 fire hydrant and gets towed would that be in
24 the city lot as well?

25 MS. EVANS: I believe so. I don't

1 see why not.

2 MR. ROGAN: Again, I will be talking
3 to more people about this, I do have some
4 concerns that it's making government bigger
5 and I am sure many people are familiar with
6 the Philadelphia Parking Authority and the
7 problems they have with their lots, and it
8 really can, you know, ruin somebody's day.
9 Not only that, it's not a place for -- you
10 know, if somebody has a bad time and their
11 car breaks down and then on top of that they
12 have to pay a fee to the city and --

13 MS. EVANS: Well, they have to pay a
14 fee now.

15 MR. ROGAN: They would have to pay a
16 fine.

17 MS. EVANS: They are paying a fee to
18 each of these towers who store the cars.
19 That is who is storing them right now, so
20 they have to then rather than going to a
21 city storage yard which is overseen by the
22 police department, they are going to the
23 storage yards of these towers and paying the
24 tower the daily storage fee.

25 MR. ROGAN: So the businesses is

1 being taken from private industry to the
2 government?

3 MR. LOSCOMBE: I believe part of the
4 problem, too, is that the different
5 companies that are towing are charging
6 different storage fees, too. It would be
7 uniform for this plan and it would be, you
8 know, it would cause less problems.

9 According to I believe it was
10 Corporal Bachman, there are a lot of
11 problems with a lot of different areas in
12 this area. We are just trying to make it
13 easier for our citizens. Towing services
14 are still going to be doing their towing and
15 the city will be taking care of the vehicles
16 while they are stored so they are all in one
17 location. Right now people have to call and
18 find out where their cars are stored, you
19 know, one of 13 different towing companies.

20 MR. ROGAN: So would additional
21 insurance be required on the city's end as
22 well?

23 MR. LOSCOMBE: I'm sure it would be
24 covered under our liability. It would be
25 very minimal, but our city insurance needs a

1 total upkeep anyway overall. We may end up
2 saving in the long running.

3 MR. ROGAN: Definitely if you are
4 going to address it I'll listen to what you
5 have to say. On the face of it, it's not
6 something that I agree with it, but I'll
7 definitely hear everyone out on that issue
8 as well. And, as I said, I'll be working
9 over the next week to prepare an amendment
10 to the budget for the pay increases that I
11 mentioned and some other items as well that
12 I have seen, that I think could be done
13 differently.

14 And, you know, it is a very large
15 document and Mr. Joyce did a great
16 presentation, summed it up very well, and
17 it's something that you have to read through
18 as a council member multiple times to get a
19 firm grasp on it, and I've read it three or
20 four times already and every time I read
21 through it there is something else that
22 sticks out that you didn't catch the last
23 time. So over the next week I will continue
24 to doing that. I look forward to hearing
25 from the public at the caucus or the hearing

1 on Monday, and I appreciate all of the input
2 I received so far regarding the budget, and
3 that is all I have for tonight. Thank you.

4 MS. EVANS: And, Councilman
5 Loscombe, do you have comments or motions?

6 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes, thank you.
7 Hopefully I just have a couple of things
8 that came up this evening so I will discuss
9 them. As far as the budget, Mr. Joyce, you
10 did an excellent presentation again as
11 usual.

12 MR. JOYCE: Thanks.

13 MR. LOSCOMBE: And again, as
14 Mr. Rogan said, there is a lot to go over
15 for all of us in this budget, and I will
16 reserve my comments as far as the budget
17 goes until next week because I have some
18 questions that I have and some things that
19 may be answered in the mean time.

20 Just to touch base on the parking
21 issue, it's still not a finalized product,
22 we are looking at different options. One of
23 our goals, I think all of our goals on
24 council here have been to try and keep the
25 plan of raising taxes down by looking at

1 different opportunities to generate revenue,
2 revenue that is not coming out of everyone's
3 pockets, and we have heard different
4 situations with the parking problems, people
5 trying to find their vehicles, people paying
6 different fees for storage, even as far as
7 the city has a fixed towing fee that there
8 may be some extra billing to the insurance
9 companies on top of that.

10 We are just trying to get it a
11 little bit fairer for our residents. At the
12 same time, under police control with these
13 vehicles and the cameras and we have the
14 facility, I think it's a safer situation for
15 the vehicles and I think it's, you know, a
16 way to generate some income for our
17 residents to help offset any tax increases.

18 And I know, you know, again, it's
19 still preliminary so I don't know how the
20 final outcome is going to be, but there has
21 been some complaints I guess from some
22 towers and stuff like that that we are
23 taking their bills away, but there is
24 probably a hundred different towers in this
25 area, I think there is 13 on the list, they

1 difference.

2 But the other thing that has really
3 upset the sequences have been the closure of
4 our bridges, the Expressway bridge, the
5 Linden Street bridge. I noticed myself in
6 the mornings going up Moosic Street the
7 traffic coming off 81 that would normally
8 come down Moosic Street is turning right
9 going over to Mulberry Street and they have
10 traffic backed up all the way around. It's
11 difficult for vehicles heading up Moosic
12 Street to turn left onto Harrison Avenue.
13 We have some issues like this that we are
14 going to have to get together with PennDOT
15 and take care of.

16 Now, my fear is the condition of the
17 Harrison Avenue bridge at this point. It's
18 off limits for trucks, certain weight
19 vehicles, our fire trucks cannot travel
20 across it and I have seen more and more now
21 two lanes of traffic sitting on that bridge
22 which, you know, that's a lot of weight, so
23 I think we should contact PennDOT and see
24 what their, you know, recommendation is for
25 something like that, too, but I do agree I

1 think once the bridges are open, the lights
2 are complete you will see a much smoother
3 flow of traffic hopefully.

4 And it was touched on before, and
5 ironically I had the same thing on my mind
6 the insurance coverage. If I remember
7 correctly last year when we approved it,
8 first of all, they finally put it out for
9 bid, but they didn't -- I mean, it was 30
10 days. For an insurance agency or company to
11 do due diligence and research all of the
12 properties for the proper coverage it's
13 impossible to do it in 30 days. You know, a
14 lot of the coverage was it just continued
15 year after year. To do it right, everything
16 should be looked over again.

17 I think our agreement at that time
18 was to have it bid out by October and we are
19 already in, you know, the end of the
20 November. And I'm usually on top of this
21 too but the last few months have been a
22 little hectic for me so, you know, I
23 apologize for falling behind on this, but
24 for any bidding to go out I believe any
25 company is going to need at least 90 days,

1 if not 60, to properly bid something like
2 this to do it right and, you know, I would
3 recommend again, as Mrs. Evans stated,
4 getting the administration to let us know
5 what their intent is on this here. They
6 have done this to us two years, dragged it
7 on and then it's too late. You know, this
8 could be another savings for us to keep the
9 taxes down. All these little things add up.
10 This is two, three years now that this is
11 going by the wayside. So, you know, I hope
12 we can resolve this issue.

13 And that's all I have this evening.

14 Thank you.

15 MS. EVANS: Thank you. Good
16 evening. City council will entertain a
17 lengthy agenda which includes several items
18 I wish to address. In Fifth Order for
19 introduction are the following:

20 Ordinances establishing new fines to
21 be imposed for false alarms, approving a fee
22 schedule for delinquent tax revenues and
23 lien searches, adoption of the general city
24 operating budget for the Year 2013,
25 authorizing a supplemental reimbursement

1 agreement for design of the Rockwell Avenue
2 bridge project, approving of a grant
3 application in the amount of \$2,044,000 to
4 fund a citywide paving project, and
5 providing for the regulation of storm water
6 management in Scranton, and penalties for
7 violations in order to meet current
8 Pennsylvania DEP standards.

9 As my colleague mentioned during his
10 excellent presentation tonight, the fines
11 for false alarms are increased to \$500 for
12 the second and third occurrences and \$1,000
13 for the fourth and each occurrence
14 thereafter.

15 The fee schedule for delinquent tax
16 and fees is as follows: \$25 per search or
17 real estate tax, refuse fee and lien or
18 condemnation searches.

19 Both of these initiatives, among
20 others, are included in the proposed 2013
21 operating budget in order to generate
22 increased or new revenue for the city.

23 The proposed 2013 budget, which will
24 be introduced tonight, is not a done deal as
25 Mr. Rogan erroneously declared. Council is

1 amenable to amendments and the budget will
2 not be voted on for final adoption until
3 December 13. Just as the work on the
4 preliminary budget continued right into the
5 November 15 deadline for the mayor to submit
6 his budget to city council, work will
7 continue on this proposed budget and
8 amendments can be presented during Sixth
9 Order and Seventh Orders prior to the final
10 vote.

11 Amendments, incidentally, are not
12 presented during Fifth Order introduction of
13 the legislation.

14 Now, I know that Councilman Rogan
15 earlier, very early in the meeting, referred
16 to a proposed budget having been printed,
17 well, council, city council, is the one who
18 sends the budget to print once it is
19 finalized, so that doesn't typically occur
20 until January.

21 This copy, meaning copies remained
22 for each council member, this copy was
23 produced by the IT Department and there were
24 very few copies made, and I remember in the
25 past, prior to the seating of this council,

1 we very often received the exact type of
2 copy that we did this year in terms of the
3 mayor's proposed budget. It wasn't until
4 2010 that we were receiving our copies minus
5 a cover.

6 Now, as I said, a done deal doesn't
7 exist and it didn't exist before November 15
8 and it doesn't exist now.

9 Additionally, the legislation
10 related to the grant funding for a citywide
11 paving project in 2013 includes the
12 following streets:

13 In West Scranton the 400 block of
14 Railroad Avenue, the 1300, 1400, 1500 and
15 1600 blocks of Division Street. The 1000,
16 1200, 1300, 1400, 1500 and 1600 blocks of
17 the Washburn Street, and the Lackawanna
18 bridge from North Ninth to North Seventh
19 Street.

20 In the downtown, the 100, 200, 300
21 and 400 blocks of North Washington Avenue.
22 The 100, 200, 300 and 400 blocks of Penn
23 Avenue. 100, 200, 300, 400 blocks of
24 Franklin Avenue. The 700, 800 and 900
25 blocks of Vine Street, and the 100, 200,

1 300, 400 and 500 blocks of Lackawanna
2 Avenue.

3 In South Scranton, the 1000 block of
4 Hemlock Street and the 300 block of Hickory
5 Street.

6 In Greenridge, the 100 to 300 blocks
7 of Marion Street, 400 to 600 blocks of Glenn
8 Street and the 1300 to 1500 blocks of
9 Albright Avenue.

10 In North Scranton, and I know that
11 in particular Mr. Joyce and I are going to
12 be very, very pleased with this development:
13 Williams Street, the 100, 200 and 300 blocks
14 of Greenbush Street. The 300, 400 and 500
15 blocks of Reese Street, and Rockwell Avenue.

16 So it appears that long last the
17 streets that we have been begging to be
18 paved for years finally made the list.

19 MR. LOSCOMBE: Is that a final list,
20 Mrs. Evans?

21 MS. EVANS: As far as I know it is.

22 MR. LOSCOMBE: Because we did have
23 that situation off the Morgan Highway, too,
24 I believe.

25 MS. EVANS: Right. Now, this wasn't

1 developed by city council.

2 MR. LOSCOMBE: Right. That's the
3 first I heard of streets.

4 MS. EVANS: Yeah. And since one of
5 this council's major goals has been street
6 paving as evidenced particularly through our
7 increased CDBG allocations for paving, we
8 are pleased to support this resolution just
9 as council is anxious to move legislation
10 for the renovation of the Rockwell Avenue
11 bridge.

12 Next, contained in Sixth Order is
13 the ordinance to implement an amusement tax.
14 City council received a response from the
15 law department and amendments containing the
16 exemptions proposed by city council will be
17 made tonight.

18 I urge my colleagues to support this
19 new revenue generator which was also
20 included in the revised recovery plan.

21 Next, our city clerk, Nancy Krake,
22 submitted to the city engineer a petition
23 from the residents of the 300 block of 13th
24 Avenue in West Scranton to add a streetlight
25 to the top of the 300 block of 13th Avenue

1 on an existing pole to provide additional
2 security and safety in light of crimes of
3 violence in this area in recent months.
4 Council awaits the recommendation of the
5 engineer.

6 Also, to date, city council has not
7 received monthly reports from the OECD
8 regarding the status of the all loans
9 despite multiple requests for such over the
10 last several months, and as community
11 development chair, Mr. Rogan, can you
12 explain this?

13 MR. ROGAN: Yes. I said, and
14 Mrs. Schumacher knows we've spoken pretty
15 much daily on this issue, I have sent
16 probably a dozen e-mails regarding this
17 issue. The last response I got was that Ms.
18 Aebli was busy regarding the HUD action
19 reports, things of that nature and she says
20 it's still in the works. I wish I could go
21 in there and put together myself.

22 MS. EVANS: Maybe you should.
23 Also -- or I should say finally, Mrs. Krake,
24 if you would please send a letter to the
25 mayor and BA asking when the broker of

1 record for all city insurances will be bid.
2 And that's it.

3 MR. HUGHES: 5-B. AN ORDINANCE
4 PROVIDING FOR THE REGULATION AND CONTROL OF
5 STORMWATER MANAGEMENT IN THE CITY OF
6 SCRANTON FOR THE LACKAWANNA RIVER WATERSHED
7 PURSUANT TO PENNSYLVANIA'S STORMWATER
8 MANAGEMENT ACT, ACT 167, AS AMENDED; BY
9 PROVIDING FOR THE APPROVAL OF STORMWATER
10 PLANS, PROVIDING STANDARDS AND METHODOLOGIES
11 FOR THE DESIGN OF STORMWATER CONTROLS; THE
12 ADMINISTRATION OF THIS ORDINANCE BY THE CITY
13 OF SCRANTON AND PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATION
14 OF THIS ORDINANCE.

15 MS. EVANS: At this time I'll
16 entertain a motion that Item 5-B be
17 introduced into its proper committee.

18 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

19 MR. JOYCE: Second.

20 MS. EVANS: On the question? All
21 those in favor of introduction signify by
22 saying aye.

23 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

24 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

25 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

1 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

2 MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
3 have it and so moved.

4 MR. HUGHES: 5-C. APPROPRIATING
5 FUNDS FOR THE EXPENSES OF THE CITY
6 GOVERNMENT FOR THE PERIOD COMMENCING ON THE
7 FIRST DAY OF JANUARY, 2013 TO AND INCLUDING
8 DECEMBER 31, 2013 BY THE ADOPTION OF THE
9 GENERAL CITY OPERATING BUDGET FOR THE YEAR
10 2013.

11 MS. EVANS: At this time I'll
12 entertain a motion that Item 5-C be
13 introduced into its proper committee.

14 MR. LOSCOMBE: So moved.

15 MR. JOYCE: Second.

16 MS. EVANS: On the question? All
17 those in favor of introduction signify by
18 saying aye.

19 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

20 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

21 MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed?

22 MR. MCGOFF: No.

23 MR. ROGAN: No.

24 MS. EVANS: The ayes have it and so
25 moved.

1 MR. HUGHES: 5-D. APPROVING FEE
2 SCHEDULE FOR DELINQUENT TAX SEARCHES,
3 DELINQUENT AND CURRENT REFUSE SEARCHES, AND
4 LIEN/CONDEMNATION SEARCHES.

5 MS. EVANS: At this time I'll
6 entertain a motion that Item 5-D be
7 introduced into its proper committee.

8 MR. LOSCOMBE: So moved.

9 MR. JOYCE: Second.

10 MS. EVANS: On the question?

11 MR. ROGAN: Yes, on the question,
12 are these title searches are these generally
13 in relation to the purchase of a home in the
14 city?

15 MR. JOYCE: Yes.

16 MR. ROGAN: So we are trying to tax
17 people that are trying to buy a house and
18 pay property taxes.

19 MR. JOYCE: It's a \$25 charge on
20 delinquent -- yes, \$25 charge for delinquent
21 tax searches, delinquent refuse searches and
22 the lien condemnation searches.

23 MR. ROGAN: Okay.

24 MS. EVANS: Anyone else? All those
25 in favor of introduction signify by saying

1 aye.

2 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

3 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

4 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

5 MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed?

6 MR. ROGAN: No.

7 MS. EVANS: The ayes have it and so
8 moved.

9 MR. HUGHES: 5-E. REPEALING ALL
10 PRIOR ORDINANCES REGARDING FINES TO BE
11 IMPOSED FOR POLICE AND FIRE DEPARTMENTS'
12 RESPONSES TO FALSE ALARMS IN THE CITY;
13 ESTABLISHING FINES TO BE IMPOSED FOR THE
14 ACTIVATION OF AN ALARM DEVICE WHICH IS
15 DETERMINED TO BE FALSE ALARM BY THE POLICE
16 DEPARTMENT OR FIRE DEPARTMENT; AUTHORIZING
17 THE ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT OF SAID
18 FINES; AND PRESCRIBING PENALTIES FOR
19 VIOLATIONS OF THIS ORDINANCE.

20 MS. EVANS: At this time I'll
21 entertain a motion that Item 5-E be
22 introduced into its proper committee.

23 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

24 MR. MCGOFF: Second.

25 MS. EVANS: On the question?

1 MR. ROGAN: I would just like to say
2 at first glance I didn't support it until I
3 read the exceptions, there are exceptions to
4 the Act of God exceptions, if your building
5 is hit by lighting, heavy rains, things of
6 that nature, you are not responsible for
7 paying the fee.

8 MS. EVANS: Anyone else? All those
9 in favor of introduction signify by saying
10 aye.

11 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

12 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

13 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

14 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

15 MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
16 have it and so moved.

17 MR. HUGHES: 5-F. AUTHORIZING THE
18 MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS
19 TO EXECUTE AND ENTER INTO A SUPPLEMENTAL
20 REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENT NO. 041222-C WITH
21 THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA FOR THE
22 PURPOSE OF INCREASING THE FUNDS ALLOCATED
23 FOR THE DESIGN OF THE ROCKWELL AVENUE BRIDGE
24 PROJECT AND UPDATING VARIOUS EXHIBITS
25 RELATING TO SAME.

1 MS. EVANS: At this time I'll
2 entertain a motion that Item 5-F be
3 introduced into its proper committee.

4 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

5 MR. JOYCE: Second.

6 MS. EVANS: On the question? All
7 those in favor of introduction signify by
8 saying aye.

9 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

10 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

11 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

12 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

13 MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
14 have it and so moved.

15 MR. HUGHES: 5-G. RATIFYING AND
16 APPROVING OF THE EXECUTION AND SUBMISSION OF
17 THE GRANT APPLICATION BY THE CITY OF
18 SCRANTON TO THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
19 ACTING THROUGH THE COMMONWEALTH FINANCING
20 AUTHORITY FOR A LOCAL SHARE ACCOUNT GRANT,
21 PURSUANT TO THE PA RACE HORSE DEVELOPMENT
22 AND GAMING ACT, IN THE AMOUNT OF
23 \$2,044,000.00 IN SUPPORT OF THE CITY OF
24 SCRANTON PAVING PROJECT THROUGHOUT THE CITY
25 OF SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA. AUTHORIZING THE

1 MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS
2 TO ACCEPT THE GRANT, IF SUCCESSFUL,
3 COORDINATING AND DISBURSING THE GRANT
4 FUNDS FOR THE CITY OF SCRANTON PAVING
5 PROJECT.

6 MS. EVANS: At this time I'll
7 entertain a motion that Item 5-G be
8 introduced into its proper committee.

9 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

10 MR. JOYCE: Second.

11 MS. EVANS: On the question? All
12 those in favor of introduction signify by
13 saying aye.

14 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

15 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

16 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

17 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

18 MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
19 have it and so moved.

20 MR. HUGHES: 5-H. AMENDING
21 RESOLUTION NO. 45, 2012, AUTHORIZING THE
22 MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS
23 FOR THE CITY OF SCRANTON TO ENTER INTO A
24 LOAN AGREEMENT AND MAKE A LOAN FROM THE
25 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT LOAN

1 PROGRAM, PROJECT NO. 150.34 IN AN AMOUNT
2 NOT TO EXCEED \$150,000.00 TO FRECKLES &
3 FRILLS, INC. TO ASSIST AN ELIGIBLE PROJECT,
4 TO INCLUDE THE GUARANTEE OF EARLY
5 DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATES, LLC.

6 MS. EVANS: At this time I'll
7 entertain a motion that Item 5-H be
8 introduced into its proper committee.

9 MR. ROGAN: So moved.

10 MR. JOYCE: Second.

11 MS. EVANS: On the question? All
12 those in favor of introduction signify by
13 saying aye.

14 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

15 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

16 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

17 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

18 MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
19 have it and so moved.

20 MR. HUGHES: SIXTH. CONSIDERATION
21 OF ORDINANCES - READING BY TITLE.

22 6-A. READING BY TITLE - FILE OF
23 COUNCIL NO. 74, 2012 - AN ORDINANCE -
24 AUTHORIZING THE VACATION OF AN UNOPENED
25 RIGHT-OF-WAY KNOWN AS THE 200 BLOCK OF

1 MCDONOUGH STREET CONSISTING OF AN AREA 150
2 FEET LONG BETWEEN 39.31 AND 39.62 FEET WIDE
3 LOCATED BETWEEN GREG COURT (UNDEVELOPED) AND
4 COLLIERY AVENUE IN THE CITY OF SCRANTON, AS
5 MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED IN THE LEGAL
6 DESCRIPTION AND MAP ATTACHED HERETO, UNDER
7 AND SUBJECT TO A PERMANENT EASEMENT AND
8 RIGHT OF WAY GRANTED TO THE SEWER AUTHORITY
9 OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA OVER
10 THE ENTIRE VACATED AREA.

11 MS. EVANS: You've heard reading by
12 title of Item 6-A, what is your pleasure?

13 MR. ROGAN: I move that Item 6-A
14 pass reading by title.

15 MR. JOYCE: Second.

16 MS. EVANS: On the question? All
17 those in favor signify by saying aye.

18 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

19 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

20 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

21 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

22 MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
23 have it and so moved.

24 MR. HUGHES: 6-B. READING BY TITLE -
25 FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 75, 2012 - AN ORDINANCE-

1 AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE REVENUE FOR THE CITY
2 OF SCRANTON BY IMPOSING A TAX UPON THE
3 PRIVILEGE OF ATTENDING OR ENGAGING IN
4 AMUSEMENTS, INCLUDING EVERY FORM OF
5 ENTERTAINMENT, DIVERSION, SPORT, RECREATION
6 AND PASTIME, REQUIRING ALL PERSONS,
7 PARTNERSHIPS, ASSOCIATIONS AND CORPORATIONS
8 CONDUCTING PLACES OF AMUSEMENTS; IMPOSING
9 DUTIES AND CONFERRING POWERS UPON THE
10 TREASURER OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON;
11 PRESCRIBING THE METHOD AND MANNER OF
12 COLLECTING THE TAX IMPOSED BY THIS
13 ORDINANCE; AND IMPOSING PENALTIES FOR THE
14 VIOLATION THEREOF.

15 MR. JOYCE: I make a motion to amend
16 Item 6-B as per the following:

17 1. In the Summary Title, on the
18 third line between the words "in" and
19 "amusements", insert "Non-exempt".

20 2. Inserting a new Section 5, which
21 reads as follows:

22 "Section 5. Exempt Activities and
23 Manner to Procure Exemption.

24 The following activities shall be
25 exempt from the Amusement Admission Tax:

1 shall mean one who performs in a live
2 production or show gratuitously and without
3 monetary compensation therefore, including
4 but not limited, non-paid amateur and
5 student performers;

6 C. National, State, County or Local
7 Government.

8 The amount charged and paid for
9 admission to any amusement sponsored by any
10 arm, branch, department or agency of the
11 United States Federal government,
12 Pennsylvania State government or a local
13 government, county school district or other
14 political subdivision, where the proceeds
15 collected by such organization from charges
16 paid for admissions to such organization
17 from charges paid for admissions to such
18 amusement go directly to said governmental
19 organization; and.

20 D. Procurement of Exemption.

21 In order to obtain an exemption from
22 payment of this tax, the entities listed in
23 paragraphs A through D above must request
24 the exemption from the City of Scranton
25 Treasurer, in writing, no later than 30 days

1 prior to the scheduled event. A failure to
2 strictly follow this requirement, and/or
3 failure to fully and accurately provide any
4 relevant information requested by the City
5 to verify the basis for the exemption, shall
6 be cause for the City to deny the
7 exemption."

8 3. Sections 5 through 16 shall be
9 re-numbered 5 to 17.

10 MR. LOSCOMBE: Second.

11 MS. EVANS: Are there any questions?

12 MR. MCGOFF: Yes. Under student
13 activities it says, "Public schools or
14 public school districts," does that preclude
15 private schools?

16 MR. JOYCE: Attorney Hughes?

17 MS. EVANS: Or nonprofit
18 organization created and operated to
19 coordinate such events.

20 MR. JOYCE: So that would mean, yes.

21 MR. HUGHES: I believe that, I don't
22 have it in front of me, but if it just says
23 public schools it would apply only to public
24 schools. I think right now, this is an
25 amendment, what would be in order if you

1 want it to include also private schools, it
2 would be an amendment to the amendment to
3 amend that section to state both public and
4 private schools then you would vote on the
5 amendment to the amendment first. If that
6 passes, or if it's defeated, you would then
7 vote on the amendment. So it would be an
8 amendment to the amendment if you make that
9 motion.

10 MR. MCGOFF: Yes, could it be
11 amended next week in Seventh Order?

12 MS. EVANS: Well, you might as well
13 do it right now.

14 MR. MCGOFF: Well, I just don't want
15 to confuse it and make it --

16 MR. HUGHES: Yes, it could be
17 amended next week.

18 MR. MCGOFF: You know what I mean?
19 I prefer that we get the wording that we
20 want for it. If we do it hastily we may end
21 up regretting it.

22 MS. EVANS: That's fine.

23 MR. HUGHES: It would be the same
24 procedure next week, you would have to amend
25 the amendment.

1 MS. EVANS: Yes, I understand.

2 MR. HUGHES: Okay.

3 MR. MCGOFF: Thank you.

4 MS. EVANS: Anyone else on the
5 question? All those in favor of the
6 amendment -- or I should say on the motion
7 to amend Item 6-B signify by saying aye.

8 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

9 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

10 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

11 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

12 MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
13 have it and so moved.

14 Now, you've heard reading by title
15 of Item 6-B, as amended, what is your
16 pleasure?

17 MR. JOYCE: I move that Item 6-B per
18 the following --

19 MS. EVANS: As amended.

20 MR. JOYCE: Sorry, as amended, pass
21 reading by title.

22 MR. ROGAN: Second.

23 MS. EVANS: On the question? All
24 those in favor signify by saying aye.

25 MR. MCGOFF: Aye.

1 MR. ROGAN: Aye.

2 MR. LOSCOMBE: Aye.

3 MR. JOYCE: Aye.

4 MS. EVANS: Aye. Opposed? The ayes
5 have it and so moved.

6 MR. HUGHES: 7. FINAL READING OF
7 RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES.

8 7-A.FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE
9 COMMITTEE ON RULES FOR ADOPTION-RESOLUTION
10 NO. 49, 2012- APPOINTMENT OF NANCY D.
11 BISIGNANI, 1200 PINE STREET, SCRANTON,
12 PENNSYLVANIA, 18510, AS A MEMBER OF THE
13 HISTORICAL ARCHITECTURE REVIEW BOARD FOR AN
14 ADDITIONAL FIVE (5) YEAR TERM. MRS.
15 BISIGNANI'S CURRENT TERM EXPIRED ON OCTOBER
16 11, 2012 AND HER NEW TERM WILL EXPIRE ON
17 OCTOBER 11, 2017.

18 MS. EVANS: As Chair for the
19 Committee on Rules, I recommend final
20 passage of Item 7-A.

21 MR. LOSCOMBE: Second.

22 MS. EVANS: On the question?

23 MR. ROGAN: Yes, I'm just looking
24 down, were we provided a resume?

25 MS. EVANS: Yes.

1 MR. ROGAN: I see it on the second
2 one, Mr. Morgan provided a letter as well.

3 MS. EVANS: He provided a letter,
4 but also I believe Ms. Bisignani provided a
5 very brief dossier. So anyone else on the
6 question? Roll call, please.

7 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McGoff.

8 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

9 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Rogan.

10 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

11 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Loscombe.

12 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

13 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Joyce.

14 MR. JOYCE: Yes.

15 MS. MARCIANO: Mrs. Evans.

16 MS. EVANS: Yes. I hereby declare
17 Item 7-A legally and lawfully adopted.

18 MR. HUGHES: 7-B. FOR CONSIDERATION
19 BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES FOR
20 ADOPTION-RESOLUTION NO. 50, 2012-
21 APPOINTMENT OF JOHN MOORE, 315 13TH AVENUE,
22 SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, 18504, AS A MEMBER
23 OF THE HISTORICAL ARCHITECTURE REVIEW BOARD
24 FOR AN ADDITIONAL FIVE (5) YEAR TERM. MR.
25 MOORE'S CURRENT TERM EXPIRED ON OCTOBER 11,

1 2012 AND HIS NEW TERM WILL EXPIRE ON OCTOBER
2 11, 2017.

3 MS. EVANS: As Chair for the
4 Committee on Rules, I recommend final
5 passage of Item 7-B.

6 MR. LOSCOMBE: Second.

7 MS. EVANS: On the question? Roll
8 call, please?

9 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McGoff.

10 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

11 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Rogan.

12 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

13 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Loscombe.

14 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

15 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Joyce.

16 MR. JOYCE: Yes.

17 MS. MARCIANO: Mrs. Evans.

18 MS. EVANS: Yes. I hereby declare
19 Item 7-B legally and lawfully adopted.

20 MR. HUGHES: 7-C. FOR CONSIDERATION
21 BY THE COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
22 FOR ADOPTION - RESOLUTION NO. 51, 2012
23 - ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE
24 HISTORICAL ARCHITECTURE REVIEW BOARD
25 ("HARB") AND APPROVING THE CERTIFICATE OF

1 APPROPRIATENESS FOR MAGICAL MARKERS VINYL
2 GRAPHICS, 529 NORTHERN BOULEVARD,
3 CHINCHILLA, PENNSYLVANIA FOR THE
4 INSTALLATION OF A 16 OZ. VINYL, FLEX FACE
5 PRINTED BANNER, MEASURING 30 ¾" H X 272 ¾"
6 W, FILLED WITHIN THE SIGN PANEL RECESS AT
7 516 LACKAWANNA AVENUE, SCRANTON,
8 PENNSYLVANIA.

9 MS. EVANS: What is the
10 recommendation of the Chair for the
11 Committee on Community Development?

12 MR. ROGAN: As Chair for the
13 Committee on Community Development, I
14 recommend final passage of Item 7-C.

15 MR. JOYCE: Second.

16 MS. EVANS: On the question? Roll
17 call, please?

18 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. McGoff.

19 MR. MCGOFF: Yes.

20 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Rogan.

21 MR. ROGAN: Yes.

22 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Loscombe.

23 MR. LOSCOMBE: Yes.

24 MS. MARCIANO: Mr. Joyce.

25 MR. JOYCE: Yes.

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MS. MARCIANO: Mrs. Evans.

MS. EVANS: Yes. I hereby declare
Item 7-C legally and lawfully adopted.

If there is no further business,
I'll entertain a motion to adjourn.

MR. JOYCE: Motion to adjourn.

MS. EVANS: This meeting is
adjourned.

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I hereby certify that the proceedings and evidence are contained fully and accurately in the notes of testimony taken by me at the hearing of the above-captioned matter and that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of the same to the best of my ability.

CATHENE S. NARDOZZI, RPR
OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER